

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 26th August 1925.

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. Deputy President (M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI AVARGAL, C.I.E.) in the chair.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924—

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Renewal of licence to the Coimbatore Power Syndicate.

* 400 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have renewed the licence issued to the Coimbatore Power Syndicate, Ltd., and if so, on what conditions; whether it is a fact that the company is incurring a loss now by supplying power to Ootacamund under the licence and if so whether the Government have any intention of compensating them and if so in what way; and

(b) how many companies have been given licences for supplying power in the Nilgiris and how many licences are now in force; whether the Government have done anything to purchase the rights of any of these companies as suggested by the hon. the Law Member just before the close of the last session of the Council?

A.—(a) The licence issued to the Nilgiri Power Syndicate has been extended up to 19th October 1925 on the original conditions. The Government believe that the Syndicate is incurring some loss under the arrangements under which power is supplied for lighting Ootacamund; but they hope that matters will be satisfactorily adjusted when they can get on with their Pykara scheme.

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- (b) The Nilgiri Power Syndicate has a licence to supply electric energy to Wellington, Ootacamund, Coonoor and within 5 miles outside Coimbatore. The Syndicate had also a concession for the development of power from the Kundah river, but that has lapsed. Another syndicate in England has had a concession for the generation of power from the Pykara river; but as stated in the answer to question No. 399 the Government have been negotiating for the purchase of this concession and have recently brought the negotiations to a conclusion.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"With reference to the answer given in clause (b), may I know whether there are only two companies to whom licences were issued? I thought there were three."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"At the present moment it is only the Pykara concession which has been purchased."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"The Syndicate is outstanding."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Yes."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"These are all yesterday's questions and answers. Most of the Members have not got copies of them. If there are spare copies we shall be obliged if they are supplied to us."



Irrigation in Palayakayal village, Tinnevely district.

* 401 Q.—Rao Bahadur CRUZ FERNANDEZ: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the ryots of Palayakayal village, Srivaikuntam taluk, Tinnevely district, have memorialised Government regarding the irrigation of the lands under Palayakayal tank in their village; and

(b) if so, what has been done with the said memorial and whether any orders have been passed to inquire into the statements contained therein?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The memorial has been sent to the Chief Engineer.

Separate channel for Palayakayal tank.

* 402 Q.—Rao Bahadur CRUZ FERNANDEZ: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Palayakayal tank was originally designed to be fed by the North main channel system and whether the ryots of the said village have contributed a sum of Rs. 1,420 in the year 1869 with an express condition that a separate channel would be given to the Palayakayal tank from Peikulam tank;

(b) whether it is a fact that their village tank was originally fed through a separate sluice No. 4 of Peikulam tank which is still called 'Kayal Madai' in the bed of which the North main channel runs;

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(c) whether it is a fact that the supply from the sluice does not now reach the Palayakayal tank owing to the gradual conversion of dry lands into wet to the extent of 550 acres between Iruvappapuram—Kumarapuram;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Palayakayal tank has now to depend solely on the scanty supply available from the Arumugamangalam tank surplus, which has a direct irrigation of about 350 acres and which also scarcely reaches the Palayakayal tank; and


(e) whether it is a fact that this source is both precarious and unsatisfactory on account of its faulty situation?

A.—(a) & (b) The registered source of supply to the tank is sluice No. 4 of the Peikulam tank under the North main channel of the Srivaikuntam anicut system. No information is available about the alleged contribution from the ryots in 1869.

(c) Yes.

(d) & (e) The tank now gets its supply from the Arumugamangalam tank surplus; the question whether further improvements are necessary has been referred to the Chief Engineer as stated in the answer to question No. 242.

Remission of land revenue on lands under Palayakayal tank.

* 403 Q.—Rao Bahadur  CRUZ FERNANDEZ: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the lands under the Palayakayal tank have suffered periodically for want of sufficient supply of water and that, in consequence, Government have been granting remission of land revenue, year after year, on account of failure or poor outturn of crops;

(b) whether it is a fact that a conference of the ryots was held at Iruvappapuram on the 18th May 1925 under the direction of the Sub-Collector, Tuticorin;

(c) whether it is a fact that at that conference it was proposed by the Sub-Collector that a separate supply channel should be provided from sluice No. 1 of Peikulam tank to ensure a regular and sufficient supply to Palayakayal tank and that the ryots have agreed to bear 20 per cent of the cost of the proposed new supply channel; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to carry out or investigate the above proposal?

A.—The Government have no detailed information on the points raised; but as stated in their answer to question No. 242 they have received a petition in which reference is made to the meeting with Sub-Collector and the proposals made at it, and they have referred the matter to the Chief Engineer.

Irrigation in Nellore district.

* 404 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that during the investigations of the Irrigation Commission, 1901-03, Nellore district was included in the famine zone of the Presidency along with the Ceded districts?

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A.—Nellore was included amongst the districts 'more or less liable to famine,' but was differentiated from the Ceded districts which were considered to be the 'most insecure'.

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"In view of the answer given to the succeeding question No. 407, may I ask the hon. the Law Member whether he will take steps to see that the interests of Nellore district will not be overlooked? I am putting this supplementary question because the answer given in the succeeding question is rather discouraging."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"In answer to that question, I may say that the hon. Member from Nellore did me the honour of sending a memorandum on the possibility of development of the irrigation projects in the Nellore district which I have forwarded to the Irrigation Committee and they will have to consider it. I believe, judging from what I have informally learnt from the President of that Committee, that there are two alternative proposals, one of which will include Nellore in the scheme of development of irrigation projects."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"That is the very point to which I wanted to draw the attention of the hon. the Law Member and that is why I asked him whether in view of the very discouraging answer given in the succeeding question, he would not take steps to safeguard the interests of the Nellore district."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"It is earnestly hoped that the Irrigation Committee will not also discourage the hon. Member from Nellore."

Tungabhadra project.

* 405 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU : With reference to the answer given to question No. 379 put by me at the meeting held on the 21st August 1924, that the Tungabhadra project is being examined and revised and that it provides for about 340,000 acres of first crop and 60,000 acres of second crop in the Nellore district, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state if the revision of the project is in any way calculated to affect the provision made in the original estimate for the extension and improvement of irrigation in the Nellore district?

A.—The project as revised in 1924 was found to be financially impossible; and an alternative with a reservoir at a higher site is under consideration. Until this has been investigated further by a special staff it is impossible to say how it will compare with the original scheme so far as concerns Nellore.

Sangameswaram project.

* 406 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the progress made in the investigations and negotiations made in regard to the Sangameswaram project?

A.—The Government are still engaged in considering the question of transfer of territory in compensation for the land that will be submerged in Hyderabad.

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Vengalapuram project.

* 407 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the further progress made in the investigation of the Vengalapuram project in the Nellore district?

A.—A report on the financial prospects of the project has just been received. It shows that it will be unproductive and it must be dropped.

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU:—“With reference to the answer given to this question, may I ask the hon. the Law Member whether he has considered the conditions of the tract covered by the Vengalapuram project in the Nellore district and if so, whether it is not one of the worst portions of the district subject to famines, scanty rainfall and so forth?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“I am not aware of it. The whole point is that the amount available for what may be called protective works is strictly limited to the famine insurance fund and the help that we get from the Government of India. In order to obtain a proper solution of this question, we have to bring about the inauguration of a scheme which will certainly bring both productive and protective works within its ambit so that the sum total of the whole commitment might come within the rules framed by the Government of India as to the interest derivable from the undertaking.”

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU:—“Will the hon. Member be pleased to have this report published?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“Yes.”

Breach of Konakarai, a flood bank in Trichinopoly municipality.

*408 Q.—Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the breach of Konakarai, a flood bank within the precincts of the Trichinopoly Municipality during the floods of 1924;

(b) whether it is a fact that the breach has not yet been closed;

(c) whether it is a fact that the breach in its present condition is a source of serious danger to the Trichinopoly town and its residents;

(d) whether the Government and the Collector have received memorials from the residents requesting the Government to close the breach immediately; and

(e) what action has been taken in respect of the breach; if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor?

A.—The Government do not know exactly what part of the flood bank is referred to: the Chief Engineer has called for a report.

Irrigation in drainage channels in villages Nos. 104 and 105 in Tanjore district.

* 409 Q.—Mr. V. PANTULU AYYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether any petition or memorial was sent by the mirasidars of No. 104 Jambuvanodai and No. 105 Thillaivilagam vattams, Tirutturaipundi taluk, Tanjore district, to the District Collector of Tanjore and the Engineering department requesting them to dig out irrigation and drainage channels for the said two villages and, if so, what action was taken upon it?

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A.—The matter has been referred to the Superintending Engineer for report.

Irrigation of Soda Sudamani, Nannilam.

* 410 Q.—Mr. V. PANTULU AYYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether any petition was received from the Secretary of the Mirasidars' Association, Nannilam taluk, regarding the defective irrigation of the Kodamurti called the Soda Sudamani, east of Kodavasal, and, if so, whether any action was taken upon it?

A.—No such petition can be traced in the Government records.

Levy of penal water-cess in East Godavari district.

* 411 Q.—Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Collector levied penal water-cess on consolidated wet lands in the East Godavari district in the year 1924-25, simply because the lands were irrigated before 15th June 1924; if so, whether the Government authorized the same and for what reasons; and

(b) what was the amount so collected in the said year?

A.—The Government have no information but have called for a report.

Irrigation advisory boards.

* 412 Q.—Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government passed any orders regarding the formation of separate Irrigation advisory boards for each of the districts in the Godavari and Kistna deltas; and

(b) if so, for which districts?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to G.O. No. 273 I., dated 3rd July 1925, which has been placed on the Editors' Table.

Sangameswaram and Kistna reservoir projects.

* 413 Q.—Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned a separate establishment for the investigation and preparation of estimates for the Sangameswaram project and the Kistna reservoir project; and

(b) if not, whether the Government intend to do so?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Not at present.

Silt clearance and conservancy in Godavari delta irrigation channels.

* 414 Q.—Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have called from the local officials for a programme of work with reference to silt clearance and conservancy of the irrigation channels in the Godavari delta as promised by the hon. Member at the time of budget discussion in 1924;

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(b) if so, whether the Government have received any programme from local officials regarding the same;

(c) if the answer to question (a) is in the negative, whether the Government will be pleased to call for the same at once and to appoint an advisory committee to advise the local officials with respect to the same; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to appoint a special staff for investigation and report regarding the said necessary requirements?

A.—(a) & (b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) & (d) As was explained in the discussion of the resolution moved last February the Government think that the boards that may be formed under the provision of the Irrigation Bill should be used for the purpose of advice on this matter, and they do not propose to constitute a special advisory committee. The Government now await detailed proposals from the Chief Engineer for the constitution of a special division for the investigation of the remodelling of channels and the improvement of drainage in this delta.

Improvement of drains in Godavari and Kistna deltas.

* 415 Q.—Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have called for any proposals from the Superintending Engineer, Bezvada, for the improvement of drains in the Godavari and Kistna deltas as promised by the hon. Member at the time of budget discussion; and

(b) if not, whether the Government will be pleased to call for the same at once and to appoint an advisory committee to assist the local officials?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 414.

Work on the Yenamadurru drain.

* 416 Q.—Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of work turned out by the drag line excavator on the Yenamadurru drain during the last two years in view of the answer given by the Government to question No. 113 on 5th February 1925;

(b) whether it is not a fact that it is lying idle; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to furnish the amount incurred for its maintenance during the last two years ending with 30th June 1925, and if figures are not available, whether the Government will be pleased to call for the same?

A.—The Government have called for a report.

Repairs to the anicut of Rampur channel.

* 417 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the work of repairs to the anicut crest of the Rampur channel, Bellary district, which had to be stopped owing to the early freshes in 1921 have since been taken up and thoroughly completed, and if so, when; and

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(b) whether anything has been done to divert the silt which is brought into the channel by the Gangaraddivanka?

A.—(a) It is believed so, but the Government have no definite information; they have called for it.

(b) The matter is under investigation by the Tank Restoration Scheme party now working there.

Judicial and Executive Functions.

Separation of judicial and executive functions.

* 418 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU: With reference to the statement made by the hon. the Law Member at the meeting held on the 6th February 1925 in regard to the separation of judicial and executive functions, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government of India have come to any and if so, what decision in regard to that matter?

A.—No communication has reached this Government regarding this question and presumably therefore no decision has been arrived at.

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasaya:—“With reference to the answer given to this question, may I ask the hon. the Law Member whether any reminder has been sent to the Government of India?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“Yes.”

Separation of judicial and executive functions.

* 419 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: With reference to the previous debates in the Council, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) if any final order has been received from the Secretary of State for India or from the Government of India about the separation of judicial and executive functions and if so, to what effect;

(b) if no final orders have been received, whether the Government sent up any recommendations or asked for liberty of action in the matter; and

(c) when the Government intend to take any action in the matter?

A.—(a) No.

(b) No.

(c) When final orders on the subject have been received.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—“In view of the fact that the Government have not asked for liberty of action in this matter, and in view of what the hon. the Law Member said at the time of the debate of this question, may I ask whether this Government will not ask for liberty of action now?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“This Government will not take any action until the question has been decided by the Secretary of State and the Government of India.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—“Will this Government ask for liberty of action?”

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ We were explicitly told that separate action should not be taken until the Secretary of State and the Government of India come to a decision on the matter. No local Government will go forward with any scheme until the policy is settled by the Government of India.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ That is what we were told at the time when this question was discussed on the floor of this House. But in view of the long delay that has occurred, will this Government address the Secretary of State or the Government of India for liberty of action in the matter ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ We are awaiting a pronouncement from Simla.”

Marine.

Indian Chamber of Commerce at Tuticorin.

* 420 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any knowledge of the working of the Indian Chamber of Commerce at Tuticorin; and

(b) whether it is in the contemplation of the Government to introduce a Bill to amend the Tuticorin Port Trust Act so as to give the Chamber representation in the Tuticorin Port Trust Board?

A.—(a) The latest information available with Government was obtained last March.

(b) Not at present.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ With reference to the answer given in clause (a), may I know whether the information obtained was favourable or otherwise ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ As the hon. Member may easily realise from the answers furnished by Mr. Graham, it is not wholly favourable.”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ Have not the Government received any information till now regarding the Indian Chamber of Commerce ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ If the hon. Member is anxious to know how the Indian Chamber of Commerce has worked I will call for the information.”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ I suppose a Bill will be introduced this year if the information received is favourable.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ We are awaiting the report of the working of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and when that report is received, it will be placed on the table of this House. Then it will be open to discussion.”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ Last year it was said that a Bill would be introduced this year or something of that sort. So I request the hon. Member to call for the information and if possible to have a Bill introduced before the end of this year.”

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ So far as I remember, subject to verification, what was said with regard to this question was that the Indian Chamber of Commerce had been started for some particular purpose, namely, with reference to the then impending Bill, that it had not been in existence for a long time, that it was not known whether it was transacting commercial or any other business, and that it was started merely to get the right of representation on the board. Now whether it has done anything more or whether it has transacted any business afterwards is a matter on which I will have to satisfy myself. So after looking into the whole matter if the Government are satisfied with the purpose for which the Indian Chamber was formed and if they also find that its scope has been extended, then the matter of introducing a Bill will be considered.”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ So far as my information goes, it seems to me that the Chamber has addressed the Government on certain matters concerning the trade at Tuticorin and the Tuticorin Port Trust Board. If so, the Government may have some knowledge of the activities of the Chamber. In such a case a Bill may be introduced.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ That will be considered.”

Landing and shipping dues at Tuticorin.

* 421 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of landing and shipping dues for coal at Tuticorin Port is six annas per ton, while the rate for other goods is eleven annas three pies generally;

(b) if so, the reason for the same;

(c) whether the difference in rates obtains also in other ports in the Presidency?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The rate was reduced in 1924 on the recommendation of the Port Conservancy Board in view of the decrease in revenue from coal since the rate was enhanced.

(c) Yes.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ With reference to the answer given in clause (b), may I know whether the desired effect has been obtained?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ So we are told.”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ Is it with a view to getting more coal or getting more revenue the Government reduced the tax?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I take it that both the motives animated those responsible for the action.”

Motor Vehicles Act.

Alleged refusal of a bus service company to convey an Adi-Dravida.

* 422 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pachayappan Motor Service Company running from Tiruvannamalai to Samalpatti refused utterly to take into the

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bus on 21st May 1925 even Adi-Dravidas holding tickets, and the Chengam police, Tiruvannamalai, tried to get back the ticket amount from the proprietor of the Motor Service Company; and

(b) whether any inquiries were made regarding the matter on a reference being made by me to the Government on 30th May 1925?

A.—(a) It is a fact that two Adi-Dravidas were required to leave the bus after purchasing tickets. The fare paid by them was, however, refunded through the local police officer.

(b) Yes.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“The answer given in clause (a) is that ‘it is a fact that two Adi-Dravidas were required to leave the bus after purchasing tickets’. Now, Sir, they were asked to get down even after purchasing the tickets. This is a damage done not only to the particular Adi-Dravidas but it is a damage to the whole of the Adi-Dravida community. In the rules published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* relating to the Motor Vehicle Amendment Act it is stated that the motor man or the driver should not act in the manner he did. May I know therefore whether the Government will now recommend to the President of the *quasi* Government for the cancellation of the licence?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“There is no President of any ‘quasi Government’ so far as I am aware.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“I mean the District Board.”

11-15 a.m. The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“I see. The Government view with great regret such action. It is quite against the spirit of rules published under the Motor Vehicles Act and such steps as the Government is called upon to take to discourage such practices in regard to the issue and the cancellation of licences to these persons, will be adopted. Government are perfectly willing that such cases should be brought to their notice to see that licences are not issued to the managers of those buses who act in this arbitrary and highhanded manner.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“I want to know why in this present instance the matter was left alone. Will it be possible to get such an important chance as this.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“May I know whether the conditions of the licences granted to them give them discretion to choose their passengers?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“No.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“May I ask the hon. Member what is to happen if twenty persons refuse to travel in case two Adi-Dravida passengers are taken in the bus? Is the proprietor to take the two Adi-Dravidas and send away the twenty others? I would also like to know how the Motor Vehicles Act will solve all these social disabilities.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“The answer is not simple; it seems to me that if twenty people have purchased tickets and they get

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in and two Adi-Dravidas come in and offer fares, and if on that the twenty previous passengers get down, the bus will travel with the last mentioned two persons."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" I do not suggest any such thing. I wanted to know the effect if twenty people refuse to purchase tickets in case there were two Adi-Dravidas who had already purchased tickets."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" In such a case, I consider it is not open to the bus driver so long as the number of persons entitled to travel is not exceeded to refuse money for tickets from any one; supposing for instance that two persons who wanted to purchase tickets are Adi-Dravidas, and twenty persons stand there instead of getting in, it will be the look-out of the bus driver to start or not."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" When they themselves had admitted that what they did in the matter was wrong, I want to know why now at least the Government cannot come to the rescue of the poor depressed classes by cancelling the licence of the bus company so as to teach them a lesson?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It is not a question of coming to the rescue of the depressed classes. I hope it will be admitted that these things cannot be done all at once. Of course, Government have impressed upon all these persons and upon all District Magistrates and other functionaries who are authorized to issue licences that very strict and stern notice will be taken of such conduct. Hon. Members cannot expect persons to change their manners and modes of life and of conduct all of a sudden. The Government will take care to see that such things do not recur."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Is it not a fact that at present the district boards do not issue licences to bus-owners unless they agree to the insertion of a clause that they will not refuse to carry Adi-Dravida passengers. I believe in the North Arcot such is the case."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The Motor Vehicles Rules framed by the Government, I believe, have got such a provision."

Newspapers.

Publication of Government advertisements.

* 423 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the names of newspapers in which Government advertisements are published;

(b) whether all the Madras Dailies are given such advertisements and if not, what are the reasons for excluding some; and

(c) whether any orders have been passed regulating the publication of advertisements by subordinate officers and if so, whether the Government will be pleased to lay them on the table of the House?

A.—(a) The Government have not prescribed a list of newspapers in which Government advertisements should be published.

(b) Such newspapers only as are not unsuitable in the opinion of the Government are given advertisements.

(c) The Government are not prepared to publish their orders on the subject.

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ As regards clause (a) will the Government be pleased to state whether a list of newspapers in which Government advertisements should not appear, has been prescribed? The main question asks for a positive answer as to the names of newspapers, but the answer given is a negative one.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ There is such a list.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ As regards (b) the answer is a little defective. The question is whether all the Madras Dailies are given such advertisements and, if not, what are the reasons for excluding some. For that there is no answer. I wanted to know the reasons for excluding some papers, but the reasons given in the answer are for including some newspapers.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ It is obvious from the answer given that all the Madras Dailies are not given advertisements.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Therefore I take it that the Government does not object to give us the list. I want a specific answer to my question. May I take it that it is correct to say that some newspapers are not given advertisements?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ That is a fact.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ If so, will not the Government tell us what those dailies are for our information?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ It is very difficult to say any such thing. Government advertisements cover a very wide field. Take for instance the High Court. It is open to the parties to ask the Court that advertisements should be inserted in paper A, paper B, or paper C, and sometimes individual Judges of the High Court have declined to insert advertisements in paper A or B as required. Other hon. Judges have said that they would issue advertisements only to some papers presumably acting on principles which they have laid down for themselves. Where the Government comes in such matters it is not easy to see. Whenever Government have to advertise they select some newspapers and send them to such papers.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ My object was only to ask for information about Government advertisements. The High Court advertisements are private advertisements which are disposed of according to the discretion of the Judges. I am referring to Government advertisements, and I ask if there is any rule governing the selection of these newspapers and if so what those rules are?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ There is no rule except the discretion of the Government having regard to the circumstances of each case.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Is the rule applicable to each case or is there a general rule?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ It is more or less general.”

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—“ May I know if the politics of a paper has anything to do with the suitability or unsuitability for Government advertisements?”

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ So far as I remember, subject to verification, what was said with regard to this question was that the Indian Chamber of Commerce had been started for some particular purpose, namely, with reference to the then impending Bill, that it had not been in existence for a long time, that it was not known whether it was transacting commercial or any other business, and that it was started merely to get the right of representation on the board. Now whether it has done anything more or whether it has transacted any business afterwards is a matter on which I will have to satisfy myself. So after looking into the whole matter if the Government are satisfied with the purpose for which the Indian Chamber was formed and if they also find that its scope has been extended, then the matter of introducing a Bill will be considered.”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ So far as my information goes, it seems to me that the Chamber has addressed the Government on certain matters concerning the trade at Tuticorin and the Tuticorin Port Trust Board. If so, the Government may have some knowledge of the activities of the Chamber. In such a case a Bill may be introduced.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ That will be considered.”

Landing and shipping dues at Tuticorin.

* 421 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of landing and shipping dues for coal at Tuticorin Port is six annas per ton, while the rate for other goods is eleven annas three pies generally;

(b) if so, the reason for the same;

(c) whether the difference in rates obtains also in other ports in the Presidency?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The rate was reduced in 1924 on the recommendation of the Port Conservancy Board in view of the decrease in revenue from coal since the rate was enhanced.

(c) Yes.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ With reference to the answer given in clause (b), may I know whether the desired effect has been obtained?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ So we are told.”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ Is it with a view to getting more coal or getting more revenue the Government reduced the tax?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I take it that both the motives animated those responsible for the action.”

Motor Vehicles Act.

Alleged refusal of a bus service company to convey an Adi-Dravida.

* 422 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pachayappan Motor Service Company running from Tiruvannamalai to Samalpatti refused utterly to take into the

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(b) whether the same practice was followed in the school year 1923-24 in the Harris High School while it was under the direct management of the Government Educational department, as also in the Government Madrasa-i-Azam ;

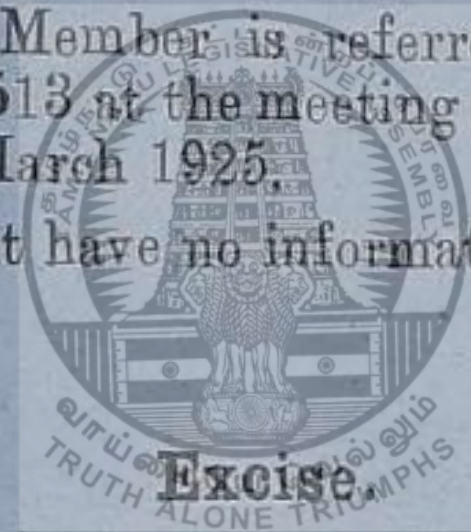
(c) whether since the transfer by Government of the management of the late Harris High School to the managing body of the Muslim High School the Director of Public Instruction issued orders to the said managing body placing restrictions in the practice of levying the fees at less than the standard rates and extending similar restrictions to the Government Madrasa-i-Azam with effect from the beginning of 1925 ;

(d) whether the order of the Director referred to in (c) was issued in spite of the previous representation of the managing body of the Muslim High School and the Board of Visitors of the Madrasa-i-Azam emphasizing the necessity of continuing the long-standing practice and the set back of the educational progress of Muslim youths likely to ensue from its discontinuance ; and

(e) whether the pace of new admission has slackened and the strength is falling off ?

A.—(a) to (d) The hon. Member is referred to the reply given to his question No. 513 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 18th March 1925.

(e) The Government have no information.



Licence fees for vending foreign liquor.

426 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether licence fees of vendors of foreign liquor are proposed to be enhanced ; and

(b) what the present scale of fees is and how it compares with fees levied in Bombay and Bengal ?

A.—(a) The fee for foreign liquor-1 (wholesale) and foreign liquor-7 (hotel) licences in the Madras City was enhanced from 1st April 1925 as shown below :—

Foreign liquor-1 from Rs. 250 to Rs. 500 per annum.

Foreign liquor-7, 1st class, from Rs. 250 to Rs. 500 per annum.

Foreign liquor-7, 2nd class, from Rs. 150 to Rs. 250 per annum.

The question of enhancing the other foreign liquor licence fees will be considered when proposals for the next lease are received.

(b) A comparative statement^a showing the present scale of fees in Madras, Bombay and Bengal is appended.

^a Printed as Appendix I on pages 840-841 infra.

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Public Works.*Construction of Coleroon bridge.*

427 Q.—Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state when the Government intend building the Coleroon bridge at Trichinopoly; if the answer is in the affirmative, why no work has yet been begun; whether at least any estimates have been prepared and steps taken to acquire any new sites that may be required for the purpose?

A.—Detailed plans have been prepared and tenders have been called for. The detailed estimate is under preparation. No proposals for the acquisition of any site for the work have been received.

Retrenchment in Public Works Department.

428 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasaya: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what are the orders passed by the Government for carrying out retrenchment in the Public Works Department;

(b) whether it is a fact that irrespective of seniority and merit subordinates in the Public Works Department are being ousted and in preference juniors without merit are retained in service on communal grounds;

(c) whether there is any uniformity in the method of securing retrenchment of Public Works Department subordinates or whether it is left to the discretion of individual superintending engineers to adopt their own methods; and

(d) what is the procedure adopted in the Waltair Circle and whether it is consistent with the orders of the department?

A.—(a) Copies of the orders have been sent to the hon. Member.

(b), (c) & (d) The Government have no reason to believe that their orders have not been followed but will enquire into any specific case that the hon. Member may wish to bring to their notice.

Labour.*Alleged grievances of labourers in plantations.*

429 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether when entering into contracts with labourers in the South Kanara district, maistris and other agents of planters frequently take thumb impressions of illiterate labourers mostly of the Adi-Dravida communities to documents which bear no date or to stamp papers without any writing except the entry made by the stamp vendor as to the sale of the paper;

(b) whether it frequently happens that in such cases documents are ante-dated or written afterwards to enforce contracts which never took place;

(c) whether it frequently happens also that widows, children, and even grandchildren of labourers are detained like slaves in plantations on the hill, in Malabar, Coimbatore and Nilgiri district for enforcement of contracts real or fictitious of such labourers; and

(d) what steps Government have taken and propose to take to inquire into and remedy these alleged grievances?

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A.—(a) to (d) The hon. Member's attention is invited to rules 2 and 3 of the rules framed under sections 4, 13 and 42 of the Planters' Labour Act, 1903. The former rule prescribes that "every labour contract shall be written in a language understood by the magistrate or other person authorised under section 4 of the Act and shall contain," among other particulars, "the signature of the labourer or if the labourer is unable to sign his name, the impression of his left thumb. . ." and "the signature of the magistrate or other persons before whom the contract is signed". Under rule 3, a certificate should be given by the magistrate or other person before whom a contract is signed to the effect "that the terms of the contract have been fully explained to and are understood by the contracting parties." The proper observance of these rules would make it impossible for such abuses as those referred to by the hon. Member to occur and the Government have no information that they are prevalent. If the hon. Member will give any specific instances of such abuses that may have come to his notice, the Government will be prepared to make the necessary enquiries.

Madras Children Act.

Scope of provisions of the Madras Children Act (IV of 1920).

430 Q.—MR. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the district or local area to which the provisions of the Madras Children Act (IV of 1920) has been extended; and

(b) to lay on the table the rules, if any, framed by the Local Government under the said Act?

A.—(a)—

Provisions of the Madras Children Act, 1920.	Area to which applied.	Extent of application.
Whole Act	Madras City, Chingleput and North Arcot districts.	Children, young persons and youthful offenders of the male sex.
Do.	Municipalities of Cuddalore, Salem, Trichinopoly, Coimbatore and Madura.	Do.
Do.	Within the jurisdiction of the Railway Police.	Do.
Sections 4, 5, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 31, 37, 40, 41, 42 and 44 of the Act. }	Rest of the Presidency	Do.
	Whole Presidency of Madras.	Children, young persons and youthful offenders of the female sex.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Law (Education) Department Notification No. 234, dated the 9th June 1923, as amended by Notification No. 178, dated the 8th August 1925, published at pages 633, 644 and 319-320 of Part I-B of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 17th July 1923 and the 11th August 1925, respectively.

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Srirangam Temple.*Repairs to Srirangam temple.*

431 Q.—Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the urgent need for repairs in the Srirangam temple;
- (b) what became of the committee appointed; and
- (c) whether any report has been submitted; if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place the report on the table?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answers to question No. 310 asked at the present meeting of the Council and to clause (d) of the question asked on 16th October 1924.

Civil Justice.*Memorial of copyists of Judicial Department, Calicut.*

432 Q.—Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government have now received the memorial sent to them through the High Court by the copyists of the Judicial department, Calicut?

A.—No.

Un-expended witness batta.

433 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether he would be pleased to place on the table of this House the figures regarding unexpended witness batta as promised on 3rd February 1925 in answer to question 6, clauses (a) and (b); and
- (b) the actual amount of profit to the Government since the issue of Circular R.O.C. No. 3848/24 of 25th March 1924 till the end of March 1925?

A.—(a) & (b) A statement^a containing the information available is laid on the table of the House. The Government are not in possession of figures up to the end of March 1925.

Criminal Justice.*Alleged quadruple murder of a whole family in Bhimavaram taluk, West Godavari.*

434 Q.—Mr. K. SARVARAYUDU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the horrible quadruple murder on 9th November 1923 by one Kalidindi Bangarraju of Pedapulleru, Bhimavaram taluk, West Godavari, of his only brother and his family consisting of his pregnant wife and two children;
- (b) what steps were taken by Government to trace the murderer;
- (c) whether the murderer has been notified in 'A list'; if not, why not;

^a Printed as Appendix II on pages 842-843 infra.

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(d) what is the worth of the property—both movable and immovable—of the accused ;

(e) whether his property was attached and sold to compel his attendance ; if not, why not ;

(f) whether it is a fact that the Government have resorted to the dilatory procedure of a civil suit involving a lot of expenditure to Government instead of bringing the accused's interest in the property to sale ; if so, what are the reasons for it ;

(g) why a special officer has not been appointed to inquire into this horrible murder which resulted in the extermination of a whole family ; and

(h) if the Government have no information on the above points, whether they will be pleased to call for the information ?

A.—The Government have no information but have now called for a report.

Electricity.

Alleged negotiation in London for tapping hydro-electric resources in the Presidency.

435 Q.—Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether this Government have authorized a retired official of the Indian Civil Service (Madras) to negotiate as its representative in London to form an English Syndicate for tapping the hydro-electric resources of this Presidency ?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (a) of question No. 136.



Repairs to Viyam dam in Malabar.

436 Q.—Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Viyam dam in Malabar has been recently repaired ;

(b) whether, even after the repairs, there is leakage of salt water and consequent injury to crops ; and

(c) whether the Government will take steps to prevent the leakage and the resulting injury ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The Government will inquire whether there is still leakage.

Washing away of anicuts in Malampuzha, Palghat.

437 Q.—Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether two anicuts known as 'Nanu Patter's anicut' and 'Pattani's anicut' in Malampuzha in the Palghat taluk in the district of Malabar, which were irrigating comparatively large tracts of land, were washed away by the floods ; and

(b) whether the Government propose to reconstruct these anicuts ?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) No—they are not Government works.

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Condition of the bank adjoining Melur.

438 Q.—Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the bank adjoining Melur (near Srirangam) is in a dangerous condition and that the whole of Srirangam is seriously threatened;

(b) whether it is a fact that one of the banks was severely damaged by the floods of last year—1924;

(c) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, why it has been allowed to continue in that dangerous condition, so as to endanger the safety of Srirangam; and

(d) what are the steps taken by the Government in respect of Melur?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Yes.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Groynes and other protective works are being constructed.

Drainage of Gaunzu Tampara lands in Ganjam district.

439 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RAITH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) at what stage are the proposals to drain and improve Gaunzu Tampara lands (Ganjam district); and

(b) whether it is a fact that some natural drains to the sea have, of late, been formed and whether any use and improvement to these drains have been effected and if so, with what result?

A.—(a) They are still under the consideration of the Chief Engineer.

(b) The Government have no information but will refer the point to the Chief Engineer.

Maintenance of main canals in Godavari delta.

440 Q.—Diwan Bahadur K. SURYANARAYANAMURTI NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the amounts for which estimates have been made for the maintenance of the main canals in each of the divisions of the Godavari delta in the working season of 1925 and the two preceding years?

A.—Detailed information is not available.

Marine.*Marine survey of the Port of Mangalore.*

441 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that it is proposed to make a marine survey of the Port and Harbour of Mangalore;

(b) what will be its cost;

(c) who will contribute the money required to meet the cost; and

(d) what purpose the survey will serve?

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A.—The Government are investigating the possibility of improving facilities at the port of Mangalore. The exact method by which such improvement should be effected has not been decided.

Railways.

Location of a pumping station near Vaniyambadi town by Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway.

442 Q.—Diwan Bahadur W. VIJAYARAGAVA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company are contemplating to locate a pumping station in the bed of the Palar river near Kodaiyangi village near Vaniyambadi town in North Arcot for taking water to Jalarpet and other railway stations;

(b) whether such pumping will not adversely affect the irrigation of lands now being irrigated by river channels on and about the bunds of the river on either side, by drawing off the underground flow of water of the existing irrigation channels;

(c) whether the Government were consulted by the Railway Company on this matter, and, if not, whether the Government will call for information;

(d) whether it is a fact that on a former occasion, some 15 years ago, a similar proposal on the part of the Vaniyambadi municipality to put up a pumping station at the site in question had to be given up owing to the opposition and protest of the above land-owners;

(e) whether the Government have received memorials from the ryots of the villages likely to be affected by the proposed pumping, protesting against the proposal; and

(f) if the Government are not in possession of information now, whether they will call for information on the matters stated above and take necessary action before it is too late?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 14.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Jails.

Settlement of Mappilla prisoners in the Andamans.

* 442-A. Q.—Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether a number of Mappilla prisoners have agreed or have been persuaded to migrate to Andamans;

(b) if so, how many; and how many of them have already been taken to the Andamans;

(c) whether it is a fact that a batch of these prisoners is to be taken very shortly and if so what is the strength of the batch;

(d) what are the special reasons that induced these prisoners to agree to migrate to the Andamans;

(e) whether it is a fact that Government are doing a propaganda among Mappilla prisoners to persuade them to go to Andamans; if so, whether they have placed the Jails Committee Report of Sir Alexander Cardew before the prisoners;

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(f) whether it is a fact that the Government officials in Malabar are carrying on vigorous propaganda to induce the families of these prisoners to accompany them to the Andamans;

(g) whether it is a fact that a number of these prisoners are to be taken to Malabar shortly to persuade their families to accompany them;

(h) whether a batch of Mappilla prisoners have been brought to Madras to be embarked to Andamans;

(i) how many Mappilla free women and children have up till now been sent to the Andamans; and

(j) whether Government have received any report about their condition in Andamans?

A.—(a) Two hundred and seventy-eight Mappilla prisoners in the Alipuram Jail have agreed to proceed to the Andamans with their families. None have been *persuaded* to migrate.

(b) Two hundred and seventy-eight; none of them have gone to the Andamans yet.

(c) One convict with the members of his family—four in all—will sail shortly.

(d) Most of the prisoners are related to or friends of prisoners already in the Andamans who have settled down as self-supporters. These convicts prefer to settle down with their families in the Andamans more or less like free men on holdings of their own in villages composed of Mappillas or on forest or other work.

(e) The Government do not do any propaganda work in this respect. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the supplementary answers to question No. 653 given by the hon. Sir Arthur Knapp at the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 26th March 1925 which give information which the hon. Member seeks and in which reference is made *inter alia* to the views expressed by the Indian Jails Committee on conditions that were found in 1919.

(f) No. Facilities are given to the convict to ascertain the wishes of the members of their families about settling down in the Andamans.

(g) There is no such proposal.

(h) Yes.

(i) The number of women and children who belong to the families of convicts already in the Andamans and who have proceeded to join them in the years 1923 to 1925 is about 500.

(j) Yes; the Government have received a report on conditions in the Andamans. The hon. Member's attention is invited to two notes by Major Barker which are being placed on the table.

Criminal Justice.

Free fishing in the Bhavani river.

* 443 Q.—Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that free fishing is prohibited by the Fisheries Inspector of Nilgiris in the Bhavani river flowing through the Attapadi valley in Malabar where the river is admittedly a private property; if so, under what authority it is done;

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(b) whether some of the ryots living there were recently prosecuted for the offence of fishing and fined;

(c) whether Attapadi in Malabar is within the territorial jurisdiction of the Sub-Magistrate of Palghat; if so, why they were prosecuted before the Sub-Magistrate of Avanashi in Coimbatore district; and

(d) whether Government have framed the rules contemplated in the Nilgiris Games Prevention Act II of 1879 and whether they are for sale?

A.—(a) Fishing in the waters referred to is regulated by the Nilgiri Fishing Rules published at pages 1429–30 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 11th August 1925.

(b) The Government understand that one man was recently prosecuted for fishing at Vellamari and that he was acquitted.

(c) Yes; but offences committed in this area against the rules are triable by the Deputy Tahsildar and Sub-Magistrate, Mettupalayam, who has been specially appointed a Magistrate of the second class for the purpose. The Government understand that the case against the man referred to in clause (b) was transferred to the Taluk Second Class Magistrate of Avanashi.

(d) The Nilgiri Fishing Rules are published every year in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“With regard to (c), there is no answer to the question as to why that particular individual was prosecuted before the Sub-Magistrate of Avanashi?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“The case was transferred to Avanashi, though it was first filed before another magistrate.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“Why was it transferred?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“They laboured under a mistake that as the Sub-Magistrate was not a second-class magistrate the case should be transferred. But the rules specifically say that the Sub-Magistrate of Mettupalayam has all the powers of a second class magistrate in so far as these cases are concerned.”

Use of the word ‘Parian’ in Summons forms in Ambur Sub-Magistrate’s Court.

* 444 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the word ‘Parian’ is used before the names of all Adi-Dravidas in writing while issuing summons to Adi-Dravidas to attend the Sub-Magistrate’s Court at Ambur, North Arcot district; and

(b) if they have no information, whether they will be pleased to make inquiries into the matter?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) The attention of the District Magistrate will be drawn to hon. Member’s statement.

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Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Sir, with reference to clauses (a) and (b), not only in issuing summonses to the members of the depressed classes is such objectionable language being used, but also in calling the names of the members of the depressed classes before the Court. The Court duffadar or peon uses the objectionable word before the name of the member of the depressed classes. May I respectfully request the hon. Member in charge to kindly call for the information or a report from the Sub-Magistrate of that place? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I am prepared to go further ; I am prepared to issue instructions that the duffadar should not do so."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I am in a difficulty in regard to this matter. I have to distinguish between two sub-sects of the depressed classes, and then it is inevitable that I should use the words ' Mala ' or ' Madiga '."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The word used here is only ' Parian ', and it was only with regard to that that I was answering."

Honorary Magistrates.

Election of a member of the depressed classes to the Vadakarai Village Panchayat Court.

* 445 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any member belonging to the depressed classes was duly elected to the Vadakarai Village Panchayat Court during the election which took place on 30th July 1924 in the Vadakarai village, Gudiyattam taluk, North Arcot district ;

(b) whether a copy of the resolution, dated 24th May 1925, of the Vadakarai Adi Dravida Conference has been received by the Government requesting them to exclude the depressed classes from the operation of the Panchayat Court ;

(c) whether it is a fact that no announcement was made among the depressed classes regarding the date of election of members to this Panchayat Court which took place on 30th July 1924 ; and

(d) if the Government have no information with reference to clauses (a) to (c), whether they will be pleased to call for the information ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Announcement of the intended election was duly made by beat of tom-tom in the portion of the village occupied by members of the depressed classes and a few Adi-Dravidas attended the election.

(d) Does not arise.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Sir, with reference to clause (a), I have got with me a mahazar submitted by the members of the depressed classes living in that village wherein it is stated that when they went to take part in election for the panchayat court they were actively prevented, abused and driven out by the caste people living in that locality in the presence of the then tahsildar who was conducting the election. May I therefore now request the hon. Member in charge to kindly call for a report so as to put a stop to similar unhappy incidents or occurrences? "

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ As stated in the answer, the resolution was not received. Apparently the copy of the resolution must have been mislaid in the Post office or somewhere else *en route*. But now that the hon. Member has made a responsible statement, I shall cause inquiries to be made as to whether the depressed classes were actually excluded in the manner alleged.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ Thank you, Sir. I have no objection to hand over this mahazar to the hon. Member later on.”

Irrigation.

Baling cases in the channels of the Periyar system.

* 446 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether in cases where baling is allowed as a matter of practice in Periyar system, any penal assessment or any special rate is imposed ;

(b) if so, on what basis the assessment is raised ;

(c) whether the theory mentioned in connexion with the supplementary question to question No. 111, dated 5th February 1925, has been investigated by the Chief Engineer ; and

(d) the number of baling cases in the different channels of the Periyar system including Tenkasi channel ?

A.—(a) & (b) All irrigation of dry lands whether by baling or not requires permission ; and if it is allowed, no penal assessment is charged—the charge is three-fourths of the ordinary water-rate.

(c) The Chief Engineer is still awaiting a report from the Superintending Engineer.

(d) 72.

Deputy Collectors.

Special Deputy Collectors to try revenue suits.

* 447 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) on how many occasions Special Deputy Collectors have been appointed to try revenue suits from the year 1915 to 1924 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that all these officers were appointed to help only I.C.S. officers in charge of Revenue divisions ; and

(c) whether any one of these Deputy Collectors at any time helped as a matter of fact any Deputy Collectors in charge of Revenue divisions and, if so, how many and in what years ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) Additional Deputy Collectors for the disposal of revenue suits are usually appointed with reference to the amount of such work in a district as a whole rather than in a particular division. The indexes therefore show only the districts where such officers are appointed ; and to compile the

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information desired by the hon. Member it would be necessary to examine the records in each case. As the average number of suits in an Indian Civil Service division according to the latest statistics is twice as many as in a Provincial Civil Service division it is probable that the additional assistance was most required for Indian Civil Service divisions, but this has not invariably been the case.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"May I know whether the Government can give us some idea of the number of cases in these divisions? The answer contains such vague phrases such as 'large number of cases,' 'double the ordinary number,' 'it is not invariably the case'. My suggestion is that whatever may be the division, whether it is Indian Civil Service division or Provincial Service division, the deputy collectors in charge of such divisions have not had any assistance."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"When the question was sent in the records were looked into, and out of some dozen cases taken out, there were three or four in which assistance was required in Provincial Service divisions."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"I want to know whether deputy collectors in charge of Indian Civil Service divisions were at any time given this assistance?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"It is difficult to say, Sir, because when an additional man is posted to the district it is possible that the division might or might not have been in charge of a deputy collector. We have to look up the records and I could not say off-hand."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Sir, in the pre-reform Council I moved a resolution that only deputy collectors who are B.A.'s and B.L.'s, should as far as possible be posted for doing this work of special deputy collectors for trial of suits under the Estates Land Act, and the Government gave an assurance that they would try to post such people as far as possible. May I know whether this wholesome principle has been kept in view as far as possible, for I have seen that there are number of qualified deputy collectors available and yet I have not seen them appointed to these places?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I do not know, Sir, and I would require notice of the question."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Will the hon. Member look into the matter and see what can be done in the matter?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"If the hon. Member will put down a question, yes."

Economic Condition.

Destruction of houses by fire in Kalambur.

* 448 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that almost the whole of the Vanniar street in Kalambur, near Arni, in North Arcot district, consisting of 44 houses was completely burnt down recently;

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(b) whether the local union sent up a report of the same to the authorities concerned;

(c) whether a mahazar was submitted by the sufferers as well as the people of the village to Government praying for relief measures for the people rendered destitute and homeless by the fire;

(d) whether this mahazar was submitted to Government on 9th June through the local Revenue authorities;

(e) whether these poor people are now living under temporary 'tattis' and shelters which do not afford any protection from wind and rain; and

(f) whether Government are issuing any orders as to free issue of palmyra stems, bamboos and thatching materials to these people?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No report from the Union authorities was received by the Collector.

(c) & (d) The Government have not received any mahazar from the sufferers or from the people of the village.

(e) The Government have no information as to this.

(f) The Collector has sanctioned a free supply of two palmyra trees, two bundles of bamboos and two cart-loads of thatching grass to each of 42 individuals.

Damages due to floods of July and August of 1924.

* 449 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received further details of damages in the affected districts by the floods of July and August of last year;

(b) whether the Government will place those reports on the table of the House; and

(c) the amount and nature of relief granted so far by the Government?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The latest information available is appended.^a The Government have also supplied tram lines and trucks for the use of the Co-operative Societies at Maruvur, Edayathumangalam and Murungapettai.

In Trichinopoly district, the Government have given the choice to the holders of wet lands covered with sand to a depth of over one foot between having the land reclassified as dry for the period of the resettlement to be introduced in fasli 1335 and retaining it as wet with remission until the sand is removed.

The Government have also directed that a new village-site measuring about 11 acres should be acquired and paid for at the cost of Government and sites therein assigned free to 140 families of Murungapettai and have sanctioned a compassionate grant of not exceeding Rs. 100 per house to the poorer families and loans not exceeding Rs. 500 in each case for building new houses to the more well-to-do ryots at the concession rate of 4 per cent for the first five years.

^a Printed as Appendix III on page 844 infra.

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Land Revenue.*Compensation to Mr. E. Madhava Menon for losses during Mappilla rebellion.*

* 450 Q.—Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN: Will the hon. Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a memorial from one E. Madhava Menon, once acting adhikari of Thachambara amsam in Walluvanad taluk, praying that he may be reinstated in his office and granted compensation for the destruction of his house by the rebels in the recent Mappilla outbreak; and

(b) whether the Government have passed any orders on his application; if so, whether they will be pleased to lay it on the table with the memorial and other connected papers?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Board of Revenue was requested in April last to consider and dispose of the case on its merits as the appeal made to the Board was dismissed on a technical ground. The Board accordingly arranged for a fresh enquiry, an opportunity being given to the memorialist to defend himself. This enquiry has been completed and on the evidence, the Board considered that the memorialist deserved the punishment of removal from service and has accordingly declined to interfere on his behalf. The Government do not propose to publish the papers.

As regards memorialist's claim for compensation, it was not admitted as it was not recommended by the District Magistrate on the ground, apparently, that memorialist did not suffer the loss by reason of being the adhikari; but further enquiry has been made of the District Magistrate on this point.

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—"May I know why this adhikari was dismissed from service?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I am afraid I do not remember."

Assignment of waste lands as darkhast in certain villages.

* 451 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to place before the House a statement showing the area of waste lands assigned as darkhast within the last ten years to adjoining or neighbouring pattadars apart from their kumki lands in the villages of Maral, Padavu, Derebail, Bolur, Padhakodi, Bangrakulur, Kavur, Panjimogar, Kunjathbail, Markada, Padushedde, Pachenadi, Kannur, Alape, excluding the area within the municipality of Mangalore and state—

(a) for what purposes these assignments were made;

(b) what portion of this area has been cultivated in each of the villages;

(c) whether it is a fact that as a result of these assignments and reservation of lands to Adi-Dravidas and assignments to ex-service men there is scarcely any land left in these villages for grazing purposes;

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(d) what is this 'sivayi-jama' system prevailing in the South Kanara district and how far it has been tolerated or recognized by Government in the abovementioned villages;

(e) whether the cultivators have been encouraged to cultivate cheaper dry grains for their food like cholan, kambu, groundnuts and ragi in the waste lands assigned to pattadars and sivayi-jama lands in these villages; and

(f) whether there has been any correspondence in the Revenue or Agricultural departments locally in the district of South Kanara or with Government from local authorities or bodies on the subject; and

(g) with what result?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information but will enquire.

(d) The hon. Member possibly refers to 'hakkal' or temporary cultivation of dry land without patta (which corresponds to sivayi-jama on the East Coast). The orders on the Settlement did not prohibit the practice though they assimilated the charges made to those on other dry lands.

(e), (f) & (g) It is not understood to what the hon. Member refers. It is not the practice to interfere with pattadars as to what cultivation they should or should not make in their patta lands.

Area of assessed waste lands in certain villages in South Kanara.

452 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what is the extent of the area of assessed waste lands in the villages mentioned in the last question (question No. 369) granted for house-sites to poorer classes in the villages within the last ten years;

(b) in how many of the plots in the abovementioned villages houses were erected; what facilities these cultivators had for digging wells within a small depth, say of 60 feet in those plots;

(c) whether it is a fact that in most of the plots granted in those villages no water could be struck within 60 feet;

(d) in view of the difficulties of the people getting water within a small depth whether it is a fact that a large number of grantees of these lands have not been able to erect houses; and

(e) further having regard to the poverty of most of these people, whether Government were justified in fixing so short a period as six months or twelve months within which they should build houses in the plots allotted?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information.

(d) No complaint has been made to Government. In other parts of the Presidency, a well in every backyard is not considered a necessity.

(e) The periods mentioned are the usual periods fixed in the rules for the grant of house-site in villages.

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Invitation of remission applications from Tanjore mirasidars.

* 453 Q.—Mr. V. PANTULU AYYAR alias VENKATARAMA AYYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the date when the District Collector of Tanjore issued general information to the district inviting remission applications from the mirasidars ;

(b) the period within which such applications were invited ;

(c) the number of applications received so far or within the prescribed period, if any ;

(d) in how many cases were final orders passed and with what effect ;

(e) whether any kist was demanded or collected from the mirasidars who had applied for remissions ;

(f) if the answer to (e) be in the affirmative, the proportion of the amount so collected to the total demand ;

(g) whether any collection was made from remission applicants after the passing of the Tanjore adjournment motion in the Council during February last ;

(h) whether the Government communicated, after the adjournment motion in the Council, any order to the District Collector for stopping demand in the case of remission applications ; if not, why not ;

(i) the total collection made in the face of remission applications before and after the adjournment motion (separate figures for 'before' and 'after') ; and

(j) whether Government will refund the amount collected from those entitled to remissions after final orders are passed on them, and if so, when ?

A.—(a) & (b) It is not the rule or practice to invite remission applications and no such invitation was issued by the Collector of Tanjore. The latest dates for the presentation of such applications are prescribed in district standing orders and dates prescribed in Tanjore district are stated below :—

Nirarambam parts.

Part of Tanjore and Mannargudi taluks and the whole of Kumbakonam and Nannilam taluks.	} 15th January.
Mayavaram, Shiyali, Tiruturaipundi and Negapatam taluks.	

Kadarambam parts.

Part of Tanjore and Mannargudi taluks and the whole of the Pattukkottai taluk.	} 15th February.

In the exceptional circumstances of last year, these dates were not adhered to under the Collector's orders and applications were freely admitted after the due date.

(c) Many thousands of applications were received but the Government do not know the exact number of such applications.

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(d) The extent of remissions granted up to the dates shown is given below :—

(1)	Up to 31st March 1925. (2)	Up to 15th April 1925. (3)	Up to 30th April 1925. (4)	Up to 15th May 1925. (5)
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Tanjore	26,913	26,913	61,540	61,540
Papanasam ..	2,635	6,000	No report.	21,233
Kumbakonam ..	5,000	11,009	18,062	26,034
Mayavaram ..	No report.	2,330	3,940	4,889
Shiyali	2,797	11,128	23,324	26,292
Nannilam	3,152	5,423	19,028	19,028
Negapatam ..	27,963	35,436	36,228	36,228
Tiruturaipundi ..	No report.	130	No report.	28,959
Mannargudi ..	5,610	5,702	No report.	6,040

(6)	Up to 31st May 1925. (6)	Up to 15th June 1925. (7)	Up to 30th June 1925. (8)	Up to 31st July 1925. (9)
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Tanjore	61,540	61,540	61,540	61,540
Papanasam ..	25,294	25,565	25,566	28,513
Kumbakonam ..	28,453	28,453	30,453	30,453
Mayavaram ..	9,588	18,112	30,315	63,967
Shiyali	36,867	36,867	40,284	45,643
Nannilam	19,028	24,386	25,268	25,268
Negapatam ..	87,532	87,547	87,547	87,547
Tiruturaipundi ..	28,959	34,241	34,241	34,241
Mannargudi ..	6,040	6,465	6,465	6,465

(e), (f) & (g) No coercive processes were issued in respect of areas on which remission had been applied for until inspection had been made.

(h) No orders of Government were necessary in view of the action taken by the Collector.

(i) & (j) Do not arise.

Pounds and Special Fund.

Penalty for illicit grazing of goats and sheep in Somandapalle reserve, Anantapur.

* 454. Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether goats and sheep grazing illicitly in the Somandapalle reserve (Anantapur district) are charged Re. 0-4-0 per head by the pound-keeper of Penukonda, whereas they are charged only at Re 0-1-0 per head by the pound-keepers of surrounding villages;

(b) whether the 200 goats of N. Dasanna of Marvapalle, hamlet of Ramapuram, were charged at Re. 0-4-0 per head and similarly the animals of Ediga Rangappa of Hammanapalle;

(c) whether the rates prescribed for all pounds are not uniform, and if not, the reasons for the difference; and

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(d) if excess collections were made, what steps the Government propose to take to see that the practice does not recur, and whether it is contemplated to refund the excess collection?

- A. - (a) Yes. The rates of fine leviable on sheep and goats trespassing in the Pennukonda reserve was increased in 1909 to four annas per head (under section 58 of the Madras Forest Act, 1882), while in the case of the Somandapalli reserve the fine remains at the rate of one anna (fixed in section 12 of the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871). The Collector reports that the pound-keeper of Pennukonda has been collecting fines at the enhanced rate on all animals impounded without ascertaining whether they were found grazing in the Pennukonda reserve.
- (b) 182 goats of N. Dasanna and 18 goats of Ediga Rangappa trespassing in Somandepalli reserve were charged at the enhanced rate of four annas each.
- (c) The enhanced rates for Pennukonda reserve were imposed to protect the reserve while it was under cultural operations.
- (d) The Collector has ordered the refund of the excess amount collected. It is proposed to levy uniform rates in both reserves in future as the cultural operations have ceased.

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“As regards the last part of the answer to clause (a), are any steps taken to prevent such occurrences?”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“Yes, Sir. The step taken is stated in clause (d), and I think it is the most effective step.”

Depressed Classes.

Alleged interference of caste people with the depressed classes in Kuditini village.

* 455 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether a copy of mahazar, dated 4th June 1925, submitted by the members of the depressed classes of Kuditini village, Bellary taluk, regarding the interference of the caste people in their religious rites has been received in the Law (General) Department?

A.—Yes.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“May I know what steps the Government have already taken in the matter?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“The Government are awaiting the report from the Collector of Bellary.”

Need of house-sites, etc., for Adi-Dravidas of Perungalur cheri, Chidambaram taluk.

* 456 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Adi-Dravidas of Perungalur cheri, Chidambaram taluk, are very badly in need of house-sites, a well and a school, and

(b) whether it is a fact that a special overseer ordered the Adi-Dravidas on the 19th May 1925 to dig a pit near their Marriamman temple

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premises which lies in the cheri site itself with a view to test the water before actually sinking a well for them and the same action was prevented by the village munsif including a mirasidar of the place?

A.—(a) & (b) Yes.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“In this case also, may I know what steps have already been taken?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“With regard to clause (a) I understand that the District Labour Officer is making arrangements to provide house-sites, well and school, and as regards clause (b) I understand that the order has been withdrawn on the intervention of the Collector and the well will be completed as soon as possible.”

Forests.

Indianization of the Service of Conservators of Forests.

* 457 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what steps Government are taking to indianize the Forest Conservative service; and

(b) (i) whether Government have made or contemplate making any appointments for that purpose; and

(ii) if so, who have been appointed and what are their qualifications, place of birth, religion and antecedents?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the classified list of Forest Officers in the Madras Presidency (with Coorg) corrected up to 1st July 1925 from which it will be seen that of the last 11 officers appointed to the Indian Forest Service, 10 are Indians. Information as to their qualifications is appended.^a

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“Mr. Saldanha's question, as I understand, is as to how many Forest Conservators were Indians but here the numbers given relate to the whole Forest service, both European and Indian. May I request the hon. Member whether he will be pleased to look into the matter and, if there is absolutely no Indian Conservator appointed, to see that one is appointed next time?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“I will look into it, Sir.”

Jails.

Alleged rape of a female prisoner in the Adoni Jail.

* 458 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mastan Sahib, Sub-Jail Warder, Adoni, Bellary district, was transferred to Alur as a punishment for failing to report to the Sub-Jail Superintendent at Adoni that a female prisoner complained of rape by a police officer;

(b) whether the Divisional Officer, Adoni, held any inquiry into the alleged complaint and if so, with what result;

^a Printed as Appendix IV on page 845 infra.

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(d) if excess collections were made, what steps the Government propose to take to see that the practice does not recur, and whether it is contemplated to refund the excess collection?

- A. - (a) Yes. The rates of fine leviable on sheep and goats trespassing in the Pennukonda reserve was increased in 1909 to four annas per head (under section 58 of the Madras Forest Act, 1882), while in the case of the Somandapalli reserve the fine remains at the rate of one anna (fixed in section 12 of the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871). The Collector reports that the pound-keeper of Pennukonda has been collecting fines at the enhanced rate on all animals impounded without ascertaining whether they were found grazing in the Pennukonda reserve.
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(b) whether the Divisional Officer, Adoni, held any inquiry into the alleged complaint and if so, with what result;

^a Printed as Appendix IV on page 845 infra.

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(c) whether the female prisoner was sent to any of the medical officers at Adoni for examination as to marks of alleged violence to her on the part of the said police officer; and if so, with what result; and

(d) whether, and if so, what action has been taken as regards the conduct of the police officer complained against?

A.—(a) The warder not only failed to report but gave a false statement that he had reported the matter to the Sub-Jail Superintendent.

(b) Yes. The Divisional Officer's inquiry showed that there was no truth in the complaint.

(c) Yes. The prisoner was sent to the lady doctor at Victoria Memorial Women's Hospital at Adoni and certified to have no injuries or alleged marks of violence.

(d) In the circumstances, there was no need to take any action.

Settlement of Mappilla prisoners in the Andamans.

* 459 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to lay on the table of this House the evidence or summary of the evidence of the witnesses, with their rank and qualifications, who support the project of the settlement of the Mappilla prisoners in the Andamans and state—

(a) who is the officer who was on special duty in the Andamans (see Legislative Council Proceedings, Volume XXIII, page 1024), on what duty he had been deputed there and under what circumstances he told the people of the conditions of life in the Andamans;

(b) whether he placed his statement in record before the official authorities;

(c) what he has to say about the Jail Committee's report on the conditions of life in the Andamans; and

(d) whether the report of that committee has been explained to the Mappilla prisoners who propose to settle there?

A.—(a) to (d) No witnesses have been examined.

Rao Sahib M. Kunhiraman Nayar, Deputy Collector, was the special officer. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the supplementary answers to question No. 653 given by the hon. Sir Arthur Knapp at the meeting of the Legislative Council of the 26th March 1925 which give the information which the hon. Member seeks and in which reference is made *inter alia* to the views expressed by the Indian Jails Committee on the conditions they found in 1919. Mr. Kunhiraman Nayar explained to prisoners the actual conditions of life in the Andamans.

As the hon. the Member refers to the report of the Indian Jails Committee in 1919, the Government place on the table of the House a description^a of the conditions in the Andamans at present which has been prepared by Major Barker who only recently served there. The Government trust that this will be of interest to hon. Members.

^a Printed as Appendix V on pages 846-849 infra.

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Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I want to know why the report of Rao Sahib M. Kunhiraman Nayar is not laid on the table of this House, or at least why his views should not be placed before us."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Confidential reports sent by officers of the Government are not generally laid on the table."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Is there any report at all from this officer? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Yes."

Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB :—" Am I to take it that the report of Mr. Kunhiraman Nayar regarding the conditions in the Andamans is confidential and cannot be shown to us? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The report contains many other things besides."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Why does it contain so many other things? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I am unable to answer it."

Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB :—" Will the Government publish that portion of the report which appertains to the conditions in the Andamans? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I want notice of the question."

Labour.

Recruitment of coolies to Assam from the Presidency.

* 460 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MURALIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state the number of coolies—men, women and children—recruited and sent month by month to the Assam Tea Estates from the beginning of this year from each of the districts of this Presidency?

A.—A statement^a is laid on the table.

Appointment of Special Superintendents to inspect the Labour schools.

* 461 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : With reference to answer, dated 7th February 1925, to question No. 205, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Special Superintendents to inspect the Labour schools have already been appointed; and

(b) if not, when they are likely to be appointed?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Does not arise.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to clause (a), may I know how many Special Superintendents have been appointed to inspect the Labour schools, and to what community or caste they belong? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I understand that five Special Superintendents have been appointed for the districts of Chingleput, Godavari, Kistna, Tanjore and South Arcot. I have no information as regards the caste to which they belong."

^a Printed as Appendix VI on page 850 infra.

[26th August 1925]

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.*Bounty of South Kanara District Board towards the Leper Asylum at Mangalore.*

* 462 Q.—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to refer to his answer to question No. 409 (a) and (b) given on 21st August 1924 (Volume XIX, page 656) and state—

(a) what are the lines of distinction between 'national', 'non-national' and 'semi-national' institutions which regulate the bounty of local boards towards charitable institutions;

(b) for what reasons the District Board of South Kanara regards the Leper asylum at Mangalore as 'semi-national' which constitutes a bar to any grant-in-aid being given by it to that institution;

(c) whether it is a fact that the majority of the lepers in South Kanara (371 according to the last census) looked after in the Leper asylum at Mangalore (45) are natives of that district;

(d) whether Government consider the ground given by the District Board of South Kanara a valid one for stopping the contribution it used to grant formerly to the asylum (Rs. 500); and

(e) how the Government propose to make up the contribution withdrawn by the District Board of South Kanara?

A.—(a) The Government have nowhere laid down any such distinction.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information. It is purely for the local body to decide to what charitable institutions it wishes to subscribe.

(d) The Government cannot compel a local body to subscribe to a charitable institution if it does not wish to do so. The question of the soundness of the reason given by the district board for stopping its contribution does not therefore arise.

(e) The Government already make a monthly capitation grant to the asylum of Rs. 4-8-0 per patient subject to a maximum of Rs. 3,670. There is no proposal at present to make up the contribution withdrawn by the district board.

MR. J. A. SALDANHA:—"In reply to question No. 409 I put last year in August, the answer was that the district board has stopped the contribution for the reason that the Leper asylum at Mangalore was a 'semi-national' institution. I was afraid to ask the question what 'semi-national' meant, because I would get the answer 'Look into the dictionary' (laughter). Yet I looked into the dictionary, and I do not find the word 'semi-national'. I do not know what the hon. the Chief Minister means by calling the institution 'semi-national', though he was kind enough to give that as the reason for stopping the contribution. With reference to clause (e), I want to know what the policy of the Government is at present as to helping charitable institutions like leper asylums, whether Government propose to concentrate in one colony near Chingleput all the lepers in the Presidency, or whether they want to foster local leper asylums."

THE HON. THE RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"The question of locating the lepers in a particular place or places is still engaging the attention of the Government."

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Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—“ May I ask whether the Government approve of this policy of district boards refusing necessary help to leper asylums on the ground that they are semi-national institutions ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Sir, the Government will certainly be glad if the local boards make a grant to such institutions as leper asylums. As to the general policy of the district boards the Government do not propose to dictate.”

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—“ Will the Government consider the question of making up for the deficiency if particular district boards do not consider favourably the question of making grants to such semi-national institutions ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The proposal is not before the Government. If there is any such proposal, the Government will consider it.”

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—“ I find from the answer to clause (e) that the Government already make a monthly capitation grant to the asylum of Rs. 4-8-0 per patient subject to a maximum of Rs. 3,670. My information is to the effect that out of 371 lepers admitted into the asylum most of them are Christians. Will the Government be pleased to instruct the District Board of South Kanara to see that non-Christians are also freely admitted ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I am not sure that all of them are Christians. I have visited some of these asylums managed by the missions. Hindus and others also are admitted into those asylums.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ May I ask where my hon. Friend Mr. Gopalan got his information from. He said there were 371 patients in the asylum, whereas my information is that there are only 45, and that there are hardly 371 patients even in the whole district. I want also to know wherefrom he got the information that the majority of them are Christians ”

Appointment, etc., of chairmen of municipalities as presidents of district boards, etc.

* 463 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) in how many cases the chairmen of municipalities have been appointed or elected as presidents of district or taluk boards ;

(b) if so, the names of those district or taluk boards whose presidents continue to be the chairmen of such municipalities ; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to stop the continuance of the same gentleman functioning both as president of a district or taluk board and chairman of a municipality as the work of either body is sufficient to occupy his full time ?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the latest Annual Civil List.

(c) There is no such proposal.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ May I know, with reference to clause (c), whether at least for the efficient administration of the local boards and municipalities it is not better to have separate presidents for local boards and separate chairmen for municipalities so that they may function properly ? ”

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The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ That is a matter left to the discretion of local bodies. Because if a man is elected president to a local board and if the same man is also elected chairman of a municipal council, the Government cannot interfere.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Am I to understand that the Government have never at any time appointed a man who was already chairman of a municipal council as president of the district board ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ That question does not arise.”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ May I know whether the headquarters for the board and the municipality are in the same place in such cases or in different places ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ It may be in the same place. It is not unusual that the headquarters of a district board and the headquarters of a municipal council are in one and the same place.”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ May I know a case where the same place happened to be the headquarters of both the bodies ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ My hon. Friend can easily get the information by a reference to the Annual Civil List.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ May I know whether complaints have been received from the citizens concerned in connexion with having one gentleman functioning in both capacities ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Sir, I have only to say that these complaints had better to be made to the electorates.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether the chairman of the Coimbatore Municipality was also nominated as district board president ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Yes. He was elected later on as chairman.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Was not the nomination made when he was chairman of the municipality ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ But he was also later on elected as chairman.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Was not the chairman of the Bellary Municipality similarly appointed president of the district board ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Yes.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ May I know whether it was the case with the president of the Coimbatore District Board ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The president was nominated to the district board, and he was later on elected as chairman of the municipality.”

The Coimbatore water-supply scheme.

* 464 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received several memorials from the residents of Coimbatore objecting to the Coimbatore water-supply scheme as at present decided upon ;

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(b) whether the municipal council has sent up any resolutions regarding the scheme and if so to what effect;

(c) whether the Government have come to any final decision in the matter and if so to what effect;

(d) whether the municipal council has decided to reduce the property tax and if so to what rate; whether the Government have come to any decision on this matter; and

(e) whether there has been any proposal to the effect that the water-supply scheme may be worked under the management of the municipal council itself and if so whether the Government have any objection to agree to the proposal; what will be the approximate saving made by the change in the working expenses of the scheme?

4.—(a) Yes.

(b) The municipal council has submitted resolutions to the following effect:—

(1) The municipal council went beyond its taxing capacity in agreeing to levy a water and drainage tax of $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Any excess expenditure on the scheme over and above 41 lakhs should therefore be entirely borne by the Government.

(2) In case any water is taken for irrigation, the Council should be given the full benefit accruing therefrom.

(3) The work should be commenced early.

(4) A water and drainage tax of 8 per cent will be levied from 1st October 1925. The necessary notice inviting objections will be published.

Copies of further resolutions passed by the Council at its meeting held on the 30th July 1925 are also appended.^a

(c) The Government have agreed to spend the whole Government grant before any municipal money is spent subject to the condition that any excess expenditure over the sanctioned estimate should be met entirely by the municipal council.

The question whether the scheme will benefit irrigation and whether any contribution can be made towards the cost of the scheme from irrigation funds on that account is under the consideration of the Government.

The chairman has promised to submit a report at an early date showing how the scheme can be financed with an 8 per cent tax. This report is awaited. The resolutions passed by the council on the 30th July 1925 are also under consideration.

(d) The Government are not aware that the Council has decided to reduce the rate of the property tax.

(e) The chairman has proposed that the centage charges on the scheme may be reduced or the council permitted to carry out the work through its own agency. This is under the consideration of the Government. It is not now possible to say what amount will be saved by the work being done by the council instead of by the Public Works Department, or whether there will be any saving.

^a Printed as Appendix VII on page 851 infra.

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ With reference to the answer in clause (b) (1), may I point out that the municipality has resolved that any excess expenditure over Rs. 41 lakhs should be borne by the Government, as will be seen from the resolutions sent up to the Government and printed as appendix. The Government say that the municipality should spend the money necessary for any excess expenditure over Rs. 41 lakhs. May I therefore know if the municipality is going to be punished for not paying for any excess expenditure for the work? We know that the pipes have been ordered for the work and they are coming into the Coimbatore town. The municipality has repeatedly resolved that it will not pay one single pie towards any excess expenditure over Rs. 41 lakhs.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The only solution is that the work should not exceed the estimated amount.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Does the Government give that undertaking, that the amount will not be exceeded? In that case, we will be satisfied.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The question can only be considered when the work reaches that stage.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Unfortunately, Sir, in spite of that the Government go on saying that anything over Rs. 41 lakhs the municipality must pay. Are the Government going to keep the question pending?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The Government are quite right in giving that warning.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know the serious consequences that will follow if the municipality refused to pay for any excess expenditure?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ It is no question of punishment. The work will be stopped.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Am I to understand that the work will be left unfinished if the municipality cannot pay a small excess amount?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ That appears to be the only way open to the Government.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Is it charitable for the Government not to proceed with the work because of that reason?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The estimate has been made and the Government expect that the work should be completed within that amount.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ There are indications of the estimate being exceeded. Is it worthwhile stopping the work even if it exceeds by a few hundred rupees or by a thousand rupees? Is that what the hon. the Minister wants to convey?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I suppose there are ways by which the expenditure may be brought down and the work completed within the estimated amount.”

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Medical.

Leper settlement in Tirumani.

11-45 a.m. * 465 Q.—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Leper Settlement at Tirumani is situated in close proximity to Chingleput municipality and several healthy villages around, besides being very near the road leading to places of pilgrimage such as Tirukalikunram, Mahabalipuram and Tiruporur;

(b) whether the municipality of Chingleput and the adjoining villagers were consulted before the location of the settlement at Tirumani was decided upon;

(c) whether it is a fact that the buildings have not been completed as yet, and that no compound walls have been raised round the colony; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that lepers are straying about the streets of Chingleput and some of them are cooking on the banks of Thimmaraja tank, which is one of the two sources of supply of drinking water to the inhabitants of the town?

A.—(a) The Chingleput Municipality is at a distance of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the settlement. There are no villages within $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile of it. The main road to Tirukalikunram, Mahabalipuram and Tiruporur from Chingleput town does not run near the settlement. The northern boundary of the settlement is formed by a branch road between the Madurantakam road and the Tirukalikunram road which is little used.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) The completed buildings were handed over to the Superintendent of the settlement at Tirumani on 2nd May 1925. An estimate for compound walls and wire fencing amounting to Rs. 14,000 has been approved by Government.

(d) Allegations of this kind have been made. Steps are being taken for the control of leper residents in the settlement.

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“ With reference to clause (c), is it not a danger to public health to allow lepers to live in buildings having no compound walls around ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The question is being considered.”

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“ With reference to clause (b), the answer is in the negative. May I know the reason why the Chingleput Municipality was not consulted ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The Government thought it was not necessary to consult the municipality. The settlement is not in the municipal area.”

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“ Is it not in the interests of the municipality that it should be consulted ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Sir, as I said, it is outside the municipal area.”

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Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I enquire whether this question of a leper settlement is not a matter of importance and whether this House should not be consulted before embarking on a scheme of concentrating all the lepers in one settlement which will cost something like Rs. 5 lakhs? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I am afraid, Sir, my hon. Friend is not accurate in his statement, because the question was placed before this hon. House and discussed during the budget time."

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—" Have the Government taken the views of experts before they made up their minds to segregate the lepers in a place near Chingleput? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The answer is in the affirmative."

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—" Is there any difference between the policy followed by Government at present and the policy followed by Government before the removal of the lepers to Chingleput? I understand what the Government has done is simply to transfer the Leper Asylum from Rayapuram to Chingleput."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" My question is whether the Chingleput Municipality and this Council should not have been consulted before embarking on a policy of segregating lepers at a particular asylum "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I am afraid, Sir, that my hon. Friend is not correct in his statement because this question was placed before the Council and it was discussed at the time of the budget."

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—" May I know if the Government took the advice of experts before they made up their minds to segregate all lepers in Chingleput? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The answer is in the affirmative."

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—" May I know whether there is any difference between the policy followed by the Government now and the policy followed by the Government before the removal of the Asylum from Rayapuram to Chingleput? I understand that what the Government have done is simply to transfer the Leper Asylum from Rayapuram to Chingleput."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Yes; the Government have simply transferred the Asylum from one place to another."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know if the Government stated that this colony is intended for 2,000 lepers from all parts of the Presidency? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" If funds are available, the Government can afford to provide accommodation for these lepers."

Public Health.

Audit of accounts of the Union Mission Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Madanapalle.

* 466 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state when the reports on the audit of the accounts of the Union Mission Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Madanapalle, for the years 1921-22 and 1922-23, respectively, were received by the Government and whether final orders thereon were passed by the Government, and if so, when?

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A.—The reports have not been received by the Government. The Surgeon-General has been instructed to submit them.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know the time when the audit report for the year 1921-22 was due in the office of Government?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I cannot exactly say when the report was received, but I think it was received as early as possible."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I wish to know which is the due date."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"There is no due date."

Personnel of vaccinators in the Presidency.

* 467 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to refer to the remarks on page 226 of the Administration Report, Madras Presidency, 1921-22, that "personnel of vaccinators in the Presidency leaves much to be desired and it is impossible to improve it unless local bodies make up their minds to pay them adequately" and to state—

(a) whether there has been any improvement in this respect since 1921-22 throughout the Presidency;

(b) whether Government have issued instructions for the employment of a certain percentage of first-class vaccinators in each district;

(c) considering the importance of having as far as possible the best qualified vaccinators for efficient vaccination, (i) whether Government have taken steps to insist on local bodies carrying out their instructions, (ii) whether in case of default, Government have exercised powers (if any) to get the vaccinators' duties done by duly qualified men; and

(d) (i) which of the local bodies in South Kanara have employed first and second class vaccinators or men not duly qualified as vaccinators, (ii) what action Government have taken or propose to take to see that the local bodies in South Kanara employ duly qualified men as vaccinators according to their instructions?

A.—(a) There has been an increase in the pay of vaccinators since 1921-22. The average pay of a vaccinator (I class, II class and probationers combined) was Rs. 27-9-10 in 1921-22 and Rs. 31-1-4 in 1924-25. Proposals of the Director of Public Health for the revision of the pay of vaccinators are under the consideration of the Government.

(b) The Government have laid down the proportions of the various classes of vaccinators which they think should be maintained.

(c) (i) The matter is within the discretion of the local bodies employing vaccinators.

(c) (ii) & (d) (ii) The Director of Public Health is to submit a report on the vaccination staff in the Presidency with proposals for improving its efficiency, on receipt of which the action to be taken will be considered.

(d) (i) The Government have no information.

[26th August 1925]

Modes of killing dogs adopted by the various municipalities.

* 468 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the names of those municipalities which have adopted the method of killing dogs by means of clubs during summer season, once in a year;

(b) the names of other municipalities which have adopted other kind of methods for killing dogs together with the method of catching or killing in each case; and

(c) if the Government have no information with reference to clauses (a) and (b), whether they will be pleased to call for the information?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government have no information and do not consider it necessary to call for it.

The question of limiting the destruction of stray dogs to the Lethal Chamber method is under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“With reference to clauses (a) to (c) the Government have declined to call for the information. May I know whether it is the policy of the Government to allow people to kill dogs by means of clubs in these days of advancement and enlightenment?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“The Government have already issued instructions to adopt more humane methods.”

Admission of the depressed classes students in the Government College, Coimbatore.

* 469 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that one Vellingiri, member of the depressed classes, was denied admission into the Coimbatore Government College, when he sought admission into the first form on producing the school-leaving certificate on the 9th June 1925;

(b) the number of pupils belonging to the depressed classes reading in the Coimbatore Government College in each form;

(c) the number of teachers belonging to Brahman, Non-Brahman, Christian, Muhammadan and other communities employed in the Government College; and

(d) if the Government have no information with reference to clauses (a) to (c), whether they will be pleased to call for the information?

A.—(a) Yes; the Government are however informed that the Principal subsequently wrote to the hon. Member informing him that as a vacancy had arisen in the class he would be prepared to admit the boy.

(b)—

							Number of pupils.
VI Form	1
V	5
IV	Nil.
III	2
II	2
I	8

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(c)—

	College department.	School department.
Brahmans	5	18
Non-Brahman Hindus	2	3
Christians	1	Nil.
Muhammadans	Nil.	Nil.
Other communities	Nil.	Nil.

(d) Does not arise.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I have got the letter written by the Principal of the Government College. He says :—" It is regretted that Vellingiri Pandaram cannot be admitted in the First Form". After making representations to the Principal and to the higher authorities, the Principal came to the conclusion that the boy might be admitted. I want to know why that Adi-Dravida boy was not admitted originally. The Principal sent a note asking me to send the boy after making a good deal of agitation. Why should that be the case ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" The Principal thought that the full complement of the class was there and that he could not admit any more boys. But afterwards some of the boys who were admitted did not turn up and there were vacancies ; and the Principal was glad to admit the Adi-Dravida boy."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" He did not assign any reason in the note sent to me. May I take it that he coolly declined to admit the boy owing to caste prohibition ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I am not able to make the inference that it is owing to caste prejudice that the boy was excluded from the school."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Affairs of the Tiruturaipundi taluk board.

470 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the existence of an obstructionist party in the Tiruturaipundi taluk board ;

(b) whether it is true that by virtue of its numerical majority this party obstructs all business at the taluk board meetings solely with a view to ousting the present incumbent of the presidentship of the taluk board ;

(c) whether in the course of their obstruction these members were reported by the president of the taluk board to have behaved in a very objectionable and unseemly manner ;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to interfere in the matter ; and

(e) if so, what action has been or is being taken thereon ?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

(c) to (e) The questions do not arise.

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*Construction of roads, etc., in the coast villages of Tonse East,
Badanidiyuru, etc., in Udipi taluk.*

471 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to ascertain and state—

(a) how many roads there are for traffic in the contiguous villages of Tonse East, Badanidiyuru, Kelarkabettu, Tenkanidiyuru and Kodavuru in the Udipi taluk ;

(b) what is the population of these villages as compared with the rest of the taluk ;

(c) whether it is a fact that these villages abutting as they do or being close to the seashore with a large fishing industry have long been in need of roads and footpaths and the demands of the people for them have been neglected by the taluk board ; and

(d) whether it is a fact that an excessive amount of the income of the taluk board has been spent on roads and other improvements in the town of Udipi to the detriment of the interests of the residents, fishermen and traders of the abovementioned coast village ?

A.—(a) The Government understand that Kodavuru is connected with Udipi by the Udipi-Malpe road and Tonse East by the coast road which also abuts the village of Kelarkabettu and that in Badanidiyuru and Tenkanidiyuru there are only tracks and footpaths.

(b) The population of these villages is 14,182 and that of the whole taluk 209,909.

(c) Kodavuru is said to be the only one of these villages with a large fishing industry. The Government are given to understand that provision has been made by the taluk board for the improvement of access to these villages.

(d) Of the 96 miles of road under the Udipi taluk board, Udipi town has only 5 miles.

Fisheries.

Control of the fisheries in the Nilgiris district.

472 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) under what authority, enactment of legislature or otherwise the fisheries in the Nilgiris district are controlled ;

(b) what powers the Collector of the district and the District Forest Officer, Nilgiris, exercise in connexion with the control of the fisheries in any capacity, and for whom or which body ;

(c) what staff and establishment are employed and with what salaries and allowances ;

(d) what is the financial position of the working of the fisheries and what control Government exercise over it ;

(e) (i) whether there is such an officer as Inspector of Fisheries in the Nilgiris district ;

(ii) whether he is treated as Government servant and subject to Public Officers' Conduct Rules ;

(iii) how he is paid and out of what fund ;

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(c)—

	College department.	School department.
Brahmans	5	18
Non-Brahman Hindus	2	3
Christians	1	Nil.
Muhammadans	Nil.	Nil.
Other communities	Nil.	Nil.

(d) Does not arise.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I have got the letter written by the Principal of the Government College. He says :—" It is regretted that Vellingiri Pandaram cannot be admitted in the First Form ". After making representations to the Principal and to the higher authorities, the Principal came to the conclusion that the boy might be admitted. I want to know why that Adi-Dravida boy was not admitted originally. The Principal sent a note asking me to send the boy after making a good deal of agitation. Why should that be the case ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" The Principal thought that the full complement of the class was there and that he could not admit any more boys. But afterwards some of the boys who were admitted did not turn up and there were vacancies ; and the Principal was glad to admit the Adi-Dravida boy."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" He did not assign any reason in the note sent to me. May I take it that he coolly declined to admit the boy owing to caste prohibition ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I am not able to make the inference that it is owing to caste prejudice that the boy was excluded from the school."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

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470 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the existence of an obstructionist party in the Tiruturaipundi taluk board ;

(b) whether it is true that by virtue of its numerical majority this party obstructs all business at the taluk board meetings solely with a view to ousting the present incumbent of the presidentship of the taluk board ;

(c) whether in the course of their obstruction these members were reported by the president of the taluk board to have behaved in a very objectionable and unseemly manner ;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to interfere in the matter ; and

(e) if so, what action has been or is being taken thereon ?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

(c) to (e) The questions do not arise.

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" I second the motion."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" I propose that Sriman Sasi-
bhushan Rath Mahasayo be also a Member of the Select Committee."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" I second it."

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—" I propose that Mr. Satyamurti, who is a
representative of the University be a Member of the Select Committee."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" I second it."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" I propose the name of
Mr. Madanagopal Nayudu."

Mr B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" I second it."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" I find that hon. Members are just
now suggesting names to be added to the list of Members of the Select
Committee. I think that Mr. Satyamurti may be there. That is my
opinion."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" May I know if Mr. Satyamurti is willing to
serve on the Committee? "

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" I think that it would be better if
hon. Members discuss the matter with the hon. the Minister and then come
up before the House in the evening with a motion instead of each hon.
Member suggesting the names of other hon. Members."

The motion of the hon. the Minister for Education was put to the
House and declared carried.

Mr. P. ANJANEYALU :—" I rise to a point of order. Certain names were
proposed and seconded. I want to know whether we should not dispose of
that matter. We can create a sort of convention by agreement. With all
respect I accept your suggestion, but I am now raising a point of order."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member may kindly
accept the suggestion and act up to it " (Laughter.)

III

AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL Nos. 40 (2), 3 AND 49.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I formally move that the report^a of the Select
Committee appointed to consider a draft amendment to Standing Order
No. 40 (2) of the Standing Orders of the Madras Legislative Council be taken
up for consideration and the amendment passed."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I beg to second the
motion. A representative committee was appointed composed of the hon. the
President, Messrs. J. A. Saldanha, S. Satyamurti, C. Natesa Mudaliyar,
T. R. Venkatarama Sastri, W. Vijayaraghava Mudaliyar, P. Kesava Pillai,

^a Printed as Appendix VIII on pages 851-853 infra.

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G. Rameswara Rao, Khalifullah Sahib and Ramaswami Mudaliyar, and they considered the whole question. The propositions they have put forward are these :—

‘The Member of the Government in charge of the department to which the Bill relates and the Member who introduced the Bill shall be members of every select committee.

‘The other members of the committee shall be named by the Council when the motion that the Bill be referred is made, or at any subsequent sitting. The number of such other members so nominated shall not, without leave of the House, exceed fifteen.’

“That is the main change that has been made.”

‘The President shall nominate one of the members of the committee to be its chairman.’

“It was considered that the normal procedure might be to have 15 members as the maximum number for these committees. If the House for special reasons want to increase the number, it may do so but with the consciousness that it is increasing that number.”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“I doubt whether this amendment is quite necessary. As a matter of fact we find that the number of members appointed to select committees at present is very much more than 20. For instance, in the case of the Hindu Religious Endowments Bill it was more than 20; in the case of the Madras University Bill it was more than 20; with regard to the Irrigation Bill and Malabar Tenancy Bill it was more than 30. For the Borstal Bill that was introduced the other day it was 22. With regard to the Andhra University Bill, the hon. the Minister for Education says that the number of members already appointed to the select committee is about 34 and we saw to-day the desire of many hon. Members of this House to add to that number. Because a maximum of 15 or 20—whatever that may be—has been fixed, it does not follow that that maximum should be reached. It also follows that we can exceed that number with the leave of the House. What I submit is that asking the special leave of the House should not be made a normal feature of the appointment of select committees. I doubt the wisdom of limiting the maximum number. The Member of the Government in charge of the department to which the Bill relates and the Member who introduces the Bill shall be members of the select committee. In addition to them there will be 15 other members so that the maximum comes to 17. In any case, if the whole House considers that such a maximum is necessary, I submit that the number may be increased to 20. I have not given formal notice of any amendment. But if my hon. Friend, the Leader of the House, agrees to it, with the consent of the hon. the President, a formal amendment may be moved. My suggestion is that the number of members may be increased from 15 to 20.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“Mr. Deputy President, Sir,

I was not a member of this committee and I do not know what happened during the deliberations of this committee.

12 noon. But the facts however are these: that on account of large committees being appointed the expenses of select committees are mounting up tremendously. Each select committee of the Malabar Tenancy Bill costs four to five thousand rupees; each select committee of the Irrigation Bill costs six to seven thousand rupees. The idea with which this motion was brought forward was that these committees ought to be small businesslike bodies

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excepting where on account of the special importance of the subject or for other reasons the House applies its mind to the question of increasing the number. It is that which is at the bottom of this idea. It seems to me that it would be a wholesome rule in ordinary Bills of no particular complexity that some such maximum should be fixed. That is all I have to say. Hon. Members who are members of the committee may probably explain what exactly took place.

"I want to say one thing more. In the House of Commons which is composed of 670 members, no select committee shall, without the leave of the House, consist of more than 15 members."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The select committee there is not the select committee as we understand it here."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"They have got different functions. I am only referring to the select committees such as they are under the parliamentary procedure. 'A select committee is usually confined to 15 members, but if, from any special circumstances, a larger number should be thought necessary, the House after notice previously given, makes the necessary order.' I shall not at present go into the question of what the functions of the parliamentary select committees are."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU:—"I rise to a point of order. I should first like to have information whether the conditions in Standing Order No. 44 (1) (i) have been fulfilled, namely, the Bill as reported by the select committee, be taken into consideration, but any member may object to its being so taken into consideration if the copies mentioned in Standing Order No. 42 have not been available for the use of members for fifteen days, etc. I have not received any copy."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Copies were handed over to hon. Members some months ago."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"As the original mover of this amendment, I would just say a few words as to on what grounds and under what circumstances this amendment was moved by me. Committees are called *select* and it is a matter for wonder to people outside as also to myself why a select committee should consist of 40 members, out of 125 Members of the Council as in the case of the Religious Endowments Bill and the Irrigation Bill. From the inquiries I have made and also from what I have seen myself of the deliberations of select committees and from what I have read of the reports of the proceedings of select committees, I could not make myself sure that all these 40 or 30 members did take the trouble to apply their mind to all the matters under discussion, with the necessary attention and care that was required of a member of the select committee. Now, it is natural for all members to be desirous of serving on every select committee. I am also anxious to be on select committees; I consider myself a very wise man and that I ought to be in every committee (laughter). But I want to know what is to be the limit to the number in select committees, what is the amount of attention the so-called members of the select committee bestow, and whether the general tax-payer should pay all the cost of these select committees for the trouble we take in the matters referred to us. From all these points of view, I think that the general tax-payer should not be burdened with this huge cost of select committees. Committees are select

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[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

and I think that the number according to the parliamentary practice, should be limited to 15. We have considered the matter carefully and have placed our view before the House. I think this number would do as good work as 30 or 40. We come from long distances for the sake of our people. The people in the country wonder what we are all doing in this Council. After all, our work does not correspond to their wishes. Most of our resolutions supported by a large majority of the Council, have not been considered by the Cabinet.

"I can assure you that there is a great discontent among the people as to the work we do or are expected to do in the Council. Considering these facts, is it worth while that we should have committees of 40 and 50 for every Bill? My own humble opinion is, 15 should be the maximum for almost every Bill, including the wonderful Religious Endowments Bill and the Irrigation Bill, and, as for the other Bills that have recently come up, like the Borstal Bill, I would limit the number to 10. Therefore in the interests of efficiency and economy and the duty we owe to the people, I would urge that this amendment should be passed. According to parliamentary practice 15 is the normal number. In Parliament, there are standing committees for railways, for marine, etc., for which experts are necessary. So far as these things are concerned, there are what are called permanent standing committees. In ordinary matters, select committees are appointed. When we bear in mind that in a Parliament consisting of over 650 members the parliamentary practice fixes the maximum ordinarily at 15, I think this House ought to adopt that practice in the interests of efficiency as well as in the interests of the people."

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI:—I beg to give my hearty support to the amendment so ably moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Saldanha. It is preposterous that a small assembly like ours should in any one of its committees contain as many as 30 or 40 members. As the hon. the Law Member has pointed out the select committee is a very businesslike body, and I cannot understand how 30 or 40 members can be brought together in a businesslike body. The practice of the House of Commons has been quoted, and I think we shall be following very healthy traditions if we limit very rigorously the number on our select committees.

"There is one other reason on which I should like to urge the limitation of the number of members on select committees. There is a temptation that always presents itself to Members of Government Benches to increase the number of members of select committees, especially towards the fag-end of the session. That temptation ought to be taken away from before the minds of hon. Members in Government Benches, and if for very special reasons the number has to be increased, the remedy should be made to lie in the hands of the House. The House ought to discuss the question fairly and squarely whether the limit is to be exceeded, and if there are overwhelming reasons I am sure the House will come to the rescue and appoint a more numerous select committee. Therefore, in the interest of business, in the interests of purity of discussion in this House, I would recommend this amendment to the unanimous acceptance of the House."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU:—"I also am inclined to think that there must be a limit to the number of members of select committees; but, what creates difficulty is the way in which we have

[Mr. A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu] [26th August 1925]

commenced our business in the case of select committees ever since we began the present sittings of the Council. This report of the select committee was published on or after the 1st April, and this Standing Order formed one of the subjects in the agenda for this meeting of the Council. Notwithstanding this fact, in the case of both the Borstal Bill and the Andhra University Bill, we had to create in the first instance large select committees, exceeding the number 15. In one case it was 25; in the other it was 35, and if the further additions proposed are taken in, it will go up to 40 and 50. So far as the House is concerned, they have found the necessity to increase the number to far more than the maximum fixed. This question having been raised, it is but necessary that we must make up our minds to fix the maximum at a reasonable figure. Following the parliamentary procedure, there are certain further restrictions. Fifteen here is the number fixed. If other names are suggested—we know it is not difficult to get the inclusion of other members—the leave of the House may be asked for with no previous notice, and so the figure 15 may not be adhered to. Suppose the hon. Member in charge of Education suggests only 15 for the Andhra University Bill, and immediately a member asks the leave of the House to add some other member, it will not be possible to refuse his request. I only wish it to be considered how far it will serve our purpose. It may be thought that the maximum of 15 is low. So I am inclined to agree with Mr. Krishnan Nayar that the maximum may be put at 20. I am afraid that the words ‘with notice previously given’ may create some difficulty. Therefore I suggest that it is difficult to accept the amendment in this particular form, and that further amendments are necessary before this report can be accepted. I think, Sir, because no notice has been given of amendments, that it is quite necessary before we meet next, some further amendments are considered by this House. In view of the necessity for giving notice of further amendments to the Standing Orders, I formally propose an adjournment of the consideration of the question to the next meeting of the Council.”

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I second the motion.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Sir, I do not propose to object to the adjournment. I consider that the reasons that have been urged both by the hon. Member from Malabar and the hon. Member from Nellore are cogent. If there is to be a maximum at all, let it be a definite maximum, and let there be a procedure regulating any departure, not *ad hoc* with reference to each Bill, but a procedure which will make it possible for the House to fix its attention upon the question quite apart from the particular circumstances of each case.

“ For that reason, Sir, and inasmuch as hon. Members have stated that they want notice and further opportunities for tabling amendments I do not propose to stand in the way of the adjournment of this motion.”

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Sir, may we not at this stage oppose the whole thing ? ”

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo (from the Chair) :—“ Certainly.”

The motion was put and carried and the question was adjourned to the next meeting.

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* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I move for leave to amend Standing Order Nos. 3 and 49 in the following manner :

' Paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 3 shall be omitted, paragraphs (2), (3), (4) and (5) of the same Standing Order shall be renumbered as (1), (2), (3) and (4).

' In clause (3) of Standing Order No. 49 for the words " with or without further amendment " the words " with such formal and consequential amendments as may be necessary " shall be substituted.'

" Sir, I take it that you will follow Standing Order No. 76."

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" I second it."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. Deputy President, I object to leave being given to amend Standing Order No. 49. Very few words are required from me to explain my object in doing so. Hon. Members will remember what. . ."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I rise to a point of order. Under Standing Order No. 76, no speeches are allowed at this stage. If there is objection, leave may be granted if 20 members rise in their places."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I am aware of that Standing Order, Sir. May I ask you to put the two amendments separately ?"

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" As there is no objection taken to leave being granted to amend Standing Order No. 3, and as objection has been taken only to moving the amendment to Standing Order No. 49, I have now to ask such of the hon. Members as are in favour of the amendment to Standing Order No. 49, being moved to rise in their places.

[After a pause]

" More than 20 hon. Members having signified their assent to the motion being made, the hon. the Law Member has the leave of the House to make his motion."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. Deputy President, now I proceed to move that the draft amendments be referred to a select committee of which the President shall be the Chairman, and to which the Deputy President, the Advocate-General and a Chairman of the Council shall be nominated members. You will announce that there will be an election by the Council of the other six members."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" At 2 p.m. hon. Members may send in names for nomination. If there are more members nominated than are required then we would go for election and that would be final. The papers should be handed over to the Secretary before 5-30 p.m."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" I rise to a point of order. When you just left your Chair you called upon a junior chairman of the panel to occupy your seat during your absence when a senior chairman was physically present. I should like to know whether it is not the rule that the senior among the panel of chairmen should be asked to occupy the seat vacated by the President or the Deputy President."

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Mr. P. ANJANEYU :—“ Sir, I should like to know whether there are junior chairmen and senior chairmen among the panel of chairmen.”
(Laughter.)

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I do not think it is in order first of all to question the ruling of the chair on this matter. The Chairman has the right to select anybody to take his place from among the panel and, so far as I know, there is no seniority or juniority among these chairmen.”

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—“ I selected the gentleman who was near at hand. I wanted also to give a chance to each member of the panel of chairmen.”

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I add that it would have been personally inconvenient to me if you had asked me to come and occupy the chair?”

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—“ Sometimes it may be very easy for young men to come and sit here for a few minutes. The hon. Member Sriman Sasibhushana Rath is rather an elderly gentleman and I thought, therefore, that he might have half an hour. The hon. Member Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar was in the chair half an hour yesterday.”

RULES UNDER SECTIONS 3 AND 7 OF THE COTTON TRANSPORT ACT, 1923.

The discussion on resolution moved by the hon. the Minister for Development on 21st August 1925, viz :—“ *This Council approves the notification and the rules which it is proposed to issue under sections 3 and 7 of the Cotton Transport Act, 1923 (III of 1923) and recommends to Government that the said notification and rules should be issued in the form in which they have been submitted to the Council*” was resumed.

* Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—“ Sir, I propose to move the following :—

‘ *In Schedule I, section 2, line 1 after the word “ Karur ” insert the words “ Musiri and Kulittalai ” and in line 2 for the word “ taluk ” substitute the word “ taluks ”.*

‘ *In Schedule II, section 2, line 3, for the word “ Ayyalur ” substitute the word “ Samudram ” and for the word “ Sanapiratti ” substitute the word “ Marudur ”.*

“ Sir, I moved for the adjournment of this matter till the next meeting of the Council which was lost and that is why I have to move these amendments now. Either in the original resolution moved by the hon. the Minister for Development or in the amendment proposed by Mr Venkataramana Ayyangar the district of Trichinopoly has not been included in the Tiruppur cambodia cotton-growing area. The taluk of Karur alone has been included. As it is, Trichinopoly is a big cambodia cotton-growing area and most of the cotton grown there is sent to Tiruppur. We have not got ginning factories or cotton-presses in Trichinopoly and it would be hard to the ryots, if Trichinopoly has not been included in the Tiruppur cambodia cotton

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APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 459 asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 26th August 1925, page 778 supra.]

The Andaman Islands.

I

There is so much ignorance and misconception with regard to the health, climate and agricultural possibilities of the Andamans that a few facts and figures may perhaps be welcomed by the general public.

Health.—At a recent public meeting, held at Madras on July 12th, a resolution was passed in which it was stated that the Andaman Islands “have been pronounced to be uninhabitable for human being.” The resolution added that the sending of Mappillas there would “wreck the moral, material and social well-being of the emigrants.”

It is true that the Jail Committee, which visited these islands in January 1920, put on record that the settlement was unhealthy. But they were relying mainly on figures and statistics. And the statistics certainly bore out their contention in certain respects.

It must be remembered, however, that war conditions were still hardly at an end; the islands had for six years been consistently short of their proper medical establishment; and the pandemic of influenza in 1918 and 1919 had taken its full toll here as elsewhere.

One of the great reasons for the ill-health of the settlement had been malaria. This disease had, for many years, caused an average of one admission to hospital per annum for every convict, and of 60 per cent of the total admissions from all causes.

Efforts to reduce malaria in the earlier years of this century had not met with much success; large airy barracks were built on the tops of the bluffs close to the sea, so that the inmates should have the benefit of the presumably healthy sea breezes, but the malaria continued.

Then, in 1912, at the request of Government, Colonel Christophers, I.M.S., went to Port Blair to investigate the malaria problem, and proved that the most important carrier of malaria was a mosquito which bred in the salt swamps bordering the sea and close to the barracks.

Acting on his advice, certain of the worst stations were removed bodily to healthy sites inland, and measures were taken—as far as funds permitted—to drain the swamps. The remarkable effect of the latter measure may be seen in the following table, which shows the result, on the women convicts, of draining a large swamp close to the headland on which their parklike quarters were situated:—

Year.	Admissions for malaria.	Ratio per cent of admissions to population.
1913	581	206·76
1917	332	120·73
1918	130	48·15

NOTE.—The reclamation of the said swamp was begun in 1913 and completed in 1917. The headland has now become so healthy that the buildings on it have been converted into the High school for Port Blair.

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The Jail Committee's report also states "The climatic conditions will always be unfavourable to the health of the convicts, *drawn as they are from various parts of India.*" The latter part of the sentence has been italicised because the climatic conditions are *not* unfavourable to people, such as the Mappillas, who have been accustomed all their lives to an almost identical climate.

In the course of their enquiry, the Jail Committee stressed the fact that, whereas the death-rate in Indian jails during the previous ten years had been 21·25 per mille, that of Port Blair had been 25·23. The then S.M.O. in his reply, said that, if the swamps could be reclaimed, the hospitals properly equipped, and an efficient and sufficient medical staff appointed, he saw no reason why the death-rate should not be reduced to 25·00 per mille.

That was in January 1920. What actually happened? In spite of the fact that swamp reclamation progressed very slowly and that the extra hospital equipment did not begin to arrive till the end of 1921, a period of great improvement set in.

The daily sick-rate, which was 77·76 per mille in 1919, fell to 66·26 in 1920 and to 49·60 in 1921.

The admissions to hospital showed a reduction of 34 per cent on the average of the previous 30 years.

The total number of days spent in hospitals was so reduced in 1921 that—compared with 1919—over Rs. 50,000 were saved in labour alone.

Finally, the death-rate from disease, which was 44·36 in 1919, fell to 38·38 in 1920 and to 15·92 in 1921.

Thus, not only was the S.M.O.'s optimistic forecast more than fulfilled, but the 1921 vital statistics of the Andamans were better than those of the jails of *any* province in India.

A great deal of this improvement was due to the lessened incidence of malaria. Compared with the average for the previous 30 years, admissions for malaria in 1921 were 3·6 per cent less, and deaths 63·7 less.

The reduction of malaria in recent years has been really remarkable, as the following figures show:—

Year.	Admissions for malaria.
1919	14,828
1920	10,060
1921	5,618 (only 15 deaths)
1922 (about)	2,600

and this improvement has been maintained.

Coincident with the reduction in malaria was an equally welcome reduction in other diseases.

The figures for the last year are not at present available, but it is known that, among a convict population of about 8,500, the daily sick-rate never reached 400, even in the unhealthiest period of the year, and that the average sick-rate over a consecutive period of quite five months did not exceed 250.

It appears, therefore, from the above figures that the Jail Committee's adverse report—however justifiable on the records of the past—is hardly applicable to present conditions; while the statement that the islands are "uninhabitable for human beings" is untrue.

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II

The first note described how great a scourge to the settlement malaria had been, and how great a reduction had been effected in recent years. In addition to malaria, there are two other diseases of much importance; they are dysentery and consumption. But these diseases are not peculiar to Port Blair; they are common to All-India. And, as a set-off to them, it is well to note the immunity which the Andaman Islands possess from many other diseases which are a scourge in India itself. They are absolutely free from plague, cholera, smallpox, hydrophobia, kala-azar, typhus and relapsing fever, while enteric fever and hookworm diseases (apart from imported cases) are almost non-existent.

When we think of the toll taken annually by these diseases in the Madras Presidency, we must agree that there is much to be said for the Andamans. The Medical department of the Andamans is fully alive to the dangers of the three main diseases mentioned and are fighting them energetically. Recently, a League of Health (on the lines of that suggested by Doctor Lankester in his book, "Tuberculosis in India") has been started at Port Blair, and its members include not only officials, free residents and boy-scouts, but also self-supporter convicts. Its aim is to improve the health of the population generally by educating all in the prevention of disease, in sanitation, first-aid, maternity and child-welfare. Similarly, recent research having shown that the strong, damp-laden winds of the south-west monsoon favour the spread of consumption measures are now being taken to locate all new villages on the north-east slopes of the hills where they will be protected from such wind.

It was said (with reference to the Anglo-Indian Colonists) that they would be miles away from the nearest medical assistance. Such a statement is both misleading and inaccurate. In addition to the two main hospitals on Ross and Haddo (both of which have male and female wards for free Indian patients) there are smaller hospitals and dispensaries located at all important stations throughout the settlement. Two new dispensaries have been opened this year to attend to the needs of the new Mappilla villages.

Climate.

The Andaman Islands are *not* (as was once told to the writer) "bare rocks nowhere more than 10 feet above the level of the sea"; they are one of the most beautiful spots in our Indian Empire, and might well be described as the "Pearls of the Orient". Their climate is almost exactly like that of Malabar. The annual rainfall is 115 inches, compared with Malabar's 117 and the mean temperature of each is from 70 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Both have a steady sea-breeze throughout the south-west monsoon, with heavy rain and a lighter and drier breeze from the north west in December and January.

Each has its own malarial problem, but in this respect they differ, the malaria of Malabar being inland at the foot-hills of the Wynaad, whereas that of the Andamans is on the sea. From the point of view of Mappilla emigration, therefore, the climate is ideal.

A recent speaker against such emigration instanced, in support of his argument, the fact that the first experiment in colonizing Anglo-Indians at Port Blair proved a failure. This is no argument against *Mappillas* going to the Andamans. In the first place, not one of that batch of Anglo-Indians had any knowledge of agriculture, whereas *Mappillas* will be in their own

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element in this respect. Then, no proper medical examination of the Anglo-Indians had been made before despatch, with the result that three of the twelve had to be sent back almost at once on medical grounds. Lastly, they had to do work done elsewhere by coolies, and the average Anglo-Indian is not suited for this in a tropical climate.

But, for the usual work of an Anglo-Indian or European in India, the climate of Port Blair is not too trying, and it is one of the few places in our Indian Empire where European women and children can remain all the year round without definite ill-effects on their health. In an experience of $6\frac{1}{2}$ years there, the writer was only off-duty for two weeks.

Agriculture, etc.—In Malabar, the staple means of livelihood are agriculture, fishing, wood-cutting, oil-pressing, rice-growing, making paper, leaf hats and umbrellas, rearing cattle, and growing areca-nut and coconut palms, plantains, pepper, ginger, tea and coffee, jack and mango fruits, etc. All these industries are suitable in the Andamans, and have been started already in the cleared areas, while cane-sugar also grows luxuriantly.

At present, the main sources of revenue are the forests and coconuts. A million tons of excellent forest woods await cutting yearly, but only the fringe of the forests can yet be touched for want of labour. Within these virgin forests lie rich valleys, eminently suited for growing the varied produce to which the Mappillas are accustomed. The country consists, in fact, mainly of hills and valleys enclosed by an extensive seaboard where splendid fishing may be obtained.

Enough has, we hope, been said to show that neither the Mappillas nor their altruistic friends need anticipate starvation, penury or an early death for anyone who has the courage and initiative to start a new life in the Andamans.

COIMBATORE, }
20th July 1925. }

F. A. BARKER, Major, I.M.S.

[T. Adinarayana Chettiyar] [26th August 1925]

Restoration Bill immediately after lunch. The House is already thin and even the present 'thickness' of the House is due to the fact that much attention centres round that Bill."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" These motions for supplementary grants are very important motions."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" The hon. Minister can have the grants whether the House is 'thick' or thin."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" There seems to be no general inclination to take up the Village Officers' Bill. Being Government business, it should be proceeded with as on the agenda, unless Government wish otherwise."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" May I point out, Sir, that the year is advancing and that unless these grants are made now, there will be no chance of their being spent during the year? Therefore we cannot wait till the October session and move these demands. I should very much like to have these demands taken up next."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is always left to the Government to arrange their business as they choose, and if they do not wish to disturb the order on the paper, we shall have to go on with it."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" I submit that the calamity which the hon. the Chief Minister evidently apprehends will not happen because the demands will come up after an hour or so." (Voices of 'No, no'.)

* Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" I think it is necessary to go on with supplementary grants because there are large sums of money asked for."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Yes, I think as the Treasury Bench perhaps dreads the consequences of the eloquence of the hon. Members over the Village Officers' Bill!" (Laughter.)

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

(The hon. the Deputy President in the chair.)

Sriman BISWANATH DAS MAHASAYO :—" Sir, in accordance with your suggestion I want to propose the name of Sriman Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo to be a Member of the Select Committee on the Andhra University Bill."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" Let the hon. the Minister for Education come "

V

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1925-26.

Grant IV.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I beg to move that—

'the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 12,000 under "Forest (Major head 8-c. Forests—Establishments—i. Panchayat Officer)—Reserved".'

"From the note that has been supplied, hon. Members will see that the action of augmenting the forest panchayat staff was raised during the

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budget discussion of 1923. The Government agreed with the Chief Conservator of Forests that it was necessary to increase the panchayat staff. The area under panchayat management at present is 984 square miles which is more than the present staff can manage. The additional area to be brought under panchayats is approximately 1,600 square miles which consists partly of areas in districts in which the staff is already working and partly of areas in the new districts to which it is proposed to extend the scheme. If they are handed over to panchayat management, it is anticipated that five Forest divisions and 11 ranges can be abolished with an annual saving of Rs. 1,00,000. It is not possible to state the exact dates from which they can be abolished as this is dependent on the time necessary for organizing new panchayats; but a saving of Rs. 2,500 is anticipated during the remaining six months of 1925-26. A sum of Rs. 12,000 will be required during the current year, deducting the anticipated saving of Rs. 2,500. From the note that has been placed in the hands of hon. Members they will see that the demand is to meet the cost of the minimum staff required. I hope that the House will sanction the demand."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" Sir, during the budget discussion I brought to the notice of the hon. the Home Member the necessity for establishing forest panchayats for the forest areas in the Ganjam district, and also the necessity of establishing ryots' forests as was announced by the Government. The hon. Member even went further and said that he would examine the question and look into the necessity of meeting the wishes of the people of Ganjam. In answer to a question I put the other day as to whether any panchayat has been started till now, the Government said that they would not extend the system of ryots' forests in the Ganjam district, specially in the Gumsur forests. I therefore request the hon. Member to go into the matter himself, see that forest panchayats are started in certain places at least as an experimental measure and that the establishment of ryots' forests be immediately given effect to in the district of Ganjam. With these words, I move that the grant be reduced by Rs. 10."

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RAIH Mahasayo :—" I second it."

* Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" While speaking on this motion, I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Member who moved this grant to the way in which the development of forest panchayats has been practically neglected so far as the Nellore district is concerned. I may point out that it was the pioneer district which started the system of panchayats. Two panchayats were started long before the Forest Committee was appointed and before it began its deliberations. But it is an irony of fate that in this very district there has been no development in forest panchayats when people are anxious to have panchayats. It is probably due to the want of special staff and I think this is the best opportunity for improving the forest panchayats. I wish to bring to the notice of this House that on various occasions proposals have been sent up by villagers. The hon. Home Member will see that the district that has been the pioneer has not been able to show any improvement and the people themselves have expressed their willingness to have forest panchayats and to have all possible facilities for the improvement of panchayats. I drew the attention of the Government to this question on various occasions and the hon. Sir Arthur Knapp said that the matter would be taken up. But nothing further took place. I was

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present on various occasions when the villagers waited in deputation on the Collector and submitted printed memorials. I do not know what became of them. The people expressed their desire to have forest panchayats. I do not regret what is past, in the hope of what is going to be done in the future. To-day may I request the hon. the Home Member that a special staff be appointed and that my district may be given better treatment?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" With regard to the debate that has taken place on this question, I should like to say that as regards Ganjam I understand that there are no suitable forests to be brought under the forest panchayats. If my hon. Friend will only write to me indicating the forests that he would like to bring under the panchayat system, I shall be prepared to consider the question. With regard to Nellore, I may say that steps will be taken to bring the forests under the panchayat system very soon."

* Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—" Special staff has to be appointed."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Certainly."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" I withdraw my motion for reduction."

The motion was put to the House and carried and the grant was made.

Grant VIII (8).

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Sir, I beg to move

'that the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 40,000 under "General Administration" for the construction at Madras of quarters for the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.'

"In doing so, I should like to call attention to the note that has been placed before the House from which hon. Members will see that we have to provide a separate house for the Military Secretary. It has been pointed out in the note that that difficulty has been met at the present moment as the present Military Secretary happens to be the son-in-law of His Excellency the Governor. Under the circumstances explained in the note, it is absolutely necessary to have a separate building for the Military Secretary and the cost of the building will be about Rs. 60,000. This year a sum of Rs. 40,000 is required and so I move that that sum be granted."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I second the motion."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I regret I have to oppose this motion firstly, from an economic point of view. I want to know how the Military Secretaries of previous Governors were housed for so many years and how this need has arisen at the present moment. Secondly, we have a Government House at Guindy which practically remains unused unless we are to believe that the outhouses and the main building are used by some people connected with the race course. This House would like to know why Guindy Government House should not be used by the Military Secretary in these days of rapid locomotion with motor-cars that move very rapidly. It would be easy for the Military Secretary with his family to stay at Guindy and attend to his duties during day time and if necessary in the evenings."

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"I think it is a waste of public money to spend such a large amount on building a new house within the premises of the Government House.

2-15 p.m. "There is also one other reason for which I may take this occasion to oppose this grant. We may take this occasion to express the resentment of the House in the way in which its wishes are being flouted by the Government. I do not refer, Sir, to our being denied the right to express an opinion on the policy of the Government. But I refer to the opinion of this House given yesterday against the colonization of the Andamans by the Mappillas. To-day a report is placed in our hands in reply to the question put by me as to the condition of the Andamans. I rubbed my eyes to see . . ."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"What has the condition of the Andamans to do with the motion before the House?"

* MR. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I have given the reason, Sir, firstly, it is from an economic point of view that I oppose this motion, secondly, it is for political reasons, I want to express our resentment at the treatment given to the opinion of this House at yesterday's debate on the colonization of the Andamans. I find that to-day we have been favoured with a report as to the condition of the Andaman islands which ought to have been placed yesterday."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I sent the report to the Council office 3 or 4 days ago."

* MR. J. A. SALDANHA:—"It may be a mistake on the part of the office. Now here is the report, and we have to rub our eyes to see if it is true or not. These Andaman islands have been condemned in strong terms by the Jail Committee. We could have had occasion to criticize the Government action yesterday, but the report was placed before us only to-day. So, I take this occasion to give expression to our resentment at the way in which our wishes have been flouted in this case and in other cases. Therefore, I urge upon the House to oppose this motion entirely."

* MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR:—"I feel bound to oppose this supplementary grant of nearly Rs. 70,000 for the construction of an additional building for the Military Secretary to His Excellency. Of late the demands of the Government House on the finances have increased, and it is perhaps necessary, apart from other reasons, on mere financial grounds, to oppose any extravagance in the Government House expenses. From the speech made by the hon. the Home Member, I am led to believe that he has not made himself personally acquainted with the necessity of a building for the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor. I wish, Sir, that a new Member as he is, he goes himself into the matter and finds out the real need for a building of that sort. There have been many Military Secretaries previously, some of them married, some of them bachelors. I do not think the necessity for an additional building for a married Military Secretary was felt in previous years. While there was no necessity for it in previous years, I wonder why an urgent demand should be brought forward now. Though I am not precluded from referring to other grounds such, for instance, as the resentment of this House against the Government in not allowing criticisms on the policy of the Government,

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etc., I shall confine myself to this, with a view to canvass the support of all the hon. Members of this House against the motion, namely, on financial grounds, and call attention to the fact that more urgent demands from the people's side are ignored, if not definitely thrown out."

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasaya :—"I wanted to inquire where the former Military Secretaries were putting up. If there was no need for the former Military Secretaries to His Excellency the Governor to have a separate house within the Government House itself, I do not see any reason why a new departure should be made with regard to the present incumbent. When we know that the present incumbent happens to be a relation of His Excellency the Governor, it is natural that we expect him to remain with His Excellency. Therefore, there is no necessity made out for a separate building for the Military Secretary. I therefore oppose the motion for this grant."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"My hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar, said that I have not gone into the question and found out whether the need is real or not. I can assure this hon. House that I have gone into this question very thoroughly, and I think it is very essential that we should have this building. The question has been raised as to where the former Military Secretaries lived. What happened was that most of the Private Secretaries and Military Secretaries in previous years were unmarried men. At present we require three quarters, because all the three officers are married men—the House Surgeon, the Private Secretary and the Military Secretary. We have to give them separate quarters."

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasaya :—"Has there been any change of policy since, that they should get married men only?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The choice is left entirely to His Excellency. We have got at present the 'Chepauk House' and 'the Lodge'. The Private Secretary and the Military Secretary are occupying these houses. We are getting a new Surgeon to His Excellency in December or so. He is a married man, and we want to provide a quarter where a married man could live. Under these circumstances, there is a real need for a new building."

"With regard to the question of Mr. Saldanha, I may say that the Government is quite different from the Governor. The Governor is a representative of His Majesty. I think it is the duty of this House to see that all comforts are granted to the representative of His Majesty the King-Emperor. If they want to show resentment against the Government, there are so many other opportunities for doing it."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—"May I ask if this is not one of the opportunities?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I do not think so. It has nothing to do with that. I hope the hon. Members of this House will pass this motion."

The motion was put and declared carried.

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Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar called for a poll and the House divided as follows :—

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 21. Mr. V. Madhava Raja. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 22. " T. Mallesappa. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 23. " P. N. Marthandam Pillai. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 24. " C. Muttayya Mudaliyar. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai. | 25. " B. Obalesappa. |
| 6. " Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. | 26. " G. Premayya. |
| 7. " the Raja of Panagal. | 27. " B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 8. Mr. E. W. Legh. | 28. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 9. " G. T. Boag. | 29. Rao Bahadur P. Raman. |
| 10. " G. T. H. Bracken. | 30. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 11. " Abdulla Ghatala Sahib. | 31. Mr. M. Ratnaswami. |
| 12. " S. Arpudaswami Udayar. | 32. " K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| 13. Rao Sahib T. C. Tangavelu Pillai. | 33. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. |
| 14. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar. | 34. " R. Veerian. |
| 15. Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 35. Diwan Bahadur W. Vijayaraghava Mudaliyar. |
| 16. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. | 36. Mr. K. Venkatachala Padayachi. |
| 17. Mr. N. Devendrudu. | 37. " T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. |
| 18. Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan. | 38. Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-Jah Sahib. |
| 19. Mr. L. C. Guruswami. | 39. Mr. T. M. Moidu Sahib Bahadur. |
| 20. " R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 40. " T. N. Muhammad Sahib Bahadur. |
| | 41. Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja. |

Noes.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju. | 8. Mr. C. Maruthavanam Pillai. |
| 2. " A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu. | 9. Sriman Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo. |
| 3. Mr. J. A. Saldanha. | 10. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar. |
| 4. " K. Uppi Sahib. | 11. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 5. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 12. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar. |
| 6. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 13. " C. V. Venkataraman Ayyangar. |
| 7. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. | 14. " B. Venkataratnam. |

41 hon. Members voted *for* the motion and 14 *against*.

The motion was carried

Grant VIII (ii).

3 p.m. *The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“I beg to move

‘that Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 3,370 under “General Administration” in connexion with the pensionary contribution to the Sudan Government on account of the pay of the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.’

“Hon. Members might have seen from the note supplied that this is a charge which this Government has to meet. It has borrowed the services of a Military officer from the Sudan Government and therefore the claim of the Sudan Government for this pensionary contribution is just and reasonable. I therefore move that this small sum may be granted.”

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

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Grant X.

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"Mr. Deputy President, I move

'that Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 2,700 under "General Administration—Reserved" on account of the pay of the temporary additional establishment proposed to be appointed in the current year in the Revenue Secretariat.'

"I understand that owing to some misapprehension between the Revenue Secretariat and the Council Office the note explaining in detail the grounds for this proposal has unfortunately not passed into the hands of the hon. Members. That note would have given them all the necessary information. I may say that this item has already been placed before the Finance Committee. There has been no increase in the establishment of the Revenue Department since the year 1919 at which time the separation from it of what is now known as the Development Department took place. In that year the number of currents which had to be dealt with in the Revenue Department amounted to 15,373. Last year, after some fluctuations it increased to as many as 21,342. In part that increase may be only temporary, but there appears to have been a steady increase in the normal volume of work with which the department has to deal. Apart from that, for the last year or so, the Revenue Department has been very heavily burdened with additional and special work. For example, a very large amount of legislation has been under consideration in that department. I might refer to legislative work in connexion with Survey, Irrigation, Land Revenue Settlement, Railway construction, Village Officers—a Bill relating to which is on our agenda for the present meeting—Court of Wards, etc. There is, further, in the current year, a large increase of work owing to the fact that the Madras Presidency has taken in hand the long-standing question of railway development. The first item in connexion with railway development is inevitably acquisition of land for the purpose and that throws a very heavy burden on the Revenue Department. It is not easy to say at present whether the increased work which is laid on this department is going to be permanent or not. But I am afraid that the volume of current work is clearly an indication that it would be impossible to carry on the work of the Revenue Department unless some permanent addition is made to the establishment. For the present, we propose to confine our demand to a sum which would be sufficient to meet the cost of one superintendent and three clerks temporarily until the end of the current financial year. By the time the budget proposals come before the Council, it would be possible to gauge what the permanent situation is likely to be. I move that this grant be given."

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

Grant XVII (i).

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Mr. Deputy President, I beg to move

'that the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 22,760 under "Education—Transferred".'

"The item consists of six sub-heads. "The first is the Government Victoria College at Palghat which has been raised to a first-grade college and the expenditure in the course of the year will be Rs. 6,300. Agreeably to

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[Sir A. P. Patro]

the promise made to the Council at the time of the budget, the college was raised to the first grade and additional expenditure incurred. Now the sanction of the Council is required for this expenditure.

"In regard to the second item, in the Ceded Districts College we have a temporary tutor in the place of an assistant in the subordinate educational service. As tutor he has to do the same kind of work as an assistant lecturer in other colleges in the Madras Educational Service. It is now proposed to remove the difference between these colleges and to raise the position of the tutor to that of an assistant lecturer and therefore this additional sum is required.

"The third sub-head under this item is for the institution of a project course in the Engineering College, Guindy. It has been recommended to us that it is absolutely necessary that graduates of the Engineering College should undergo a course of what is called the special training in project course. This training includes survey of water-works, projects and also railway construction. The curriculum of the Engineering College will therefore be modified in order to include these subjects, viz., survey of projects relating to water-supply, construction of railways, and construction of reservoirs. This item is for the purpose of meeting the additional expenditure to be incurred by the students whenever they go out on excursion and prepare schemes which will be scrutinized by the professor. It would also cover the batta and the travelling expenses of the students and also expenses for meeting the cost of additional lascars who may have to be employed. For these purposes, we have this year asked for a sum of Rs. 3,200.

"The fourth item is for the purpose of opening a training class in the Government Higher Elementary School at Chicacole. There is paucity of secondary trained teachers in Ganjam and Vizagapatam districts. So, in order to enable the department to have more trained teachers it is intended to strengthen further the Oriya and Telugu training class in Chicacole by the addition of a graduate teacher who will be competent to take charge of the additional class.

"The fifth sub-head relates to the Government Training School at Chicacole. The number of trained teachers in the Ganjam district is comparatively few. Therefore, it is proposed to provide for additional facilities for the training of teachers. Higher elementary training will be provided for teachers who are already in the field working in the lower standards.

"The sixth sub-head relates to the opening of a secondary training class attached to the aided secondary school at Srirangam. Hon. Members will remember, that some time back I suggested that Government would pursue the policy of encouraging secondary schools opening training sections in addition to what they are doing so that teachers and students who pass out of that school may be trained also in that school in the training section. In that way the necessity for the maintenance of a separate training school in any particular locality would be minimised. In addition to minimising the cost it would enable the headmasters to know their students and to train them efficiently in the training section attached to the school. This policy is also economically sound. So, the policy having been already declared, we want to begin with this school in this place, viz., Srirangam. Hereafter we propose to subsidize aided institutions so that they may open training sections

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or classes attached to their schools. In the long run these schools will become more popular seeing that this policy must naturally result in the students of those schools undergoing training in their own schools and get employed there or in the neighbourhood.

"Therefore under these sub-heads the expenditure is needed and I request the House to grant the same."

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—"Will the hon. the Minister be so good as to specify the items under the first sub-head?"

*The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I said that a sum of Rs. 6,300 would be required."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya :—"The hon. the Minister for Education has informed us that a training school with a training section is to be started at Chicacole for the training of Oriya and Telugu students. I think that he is going to have only one teacher to look after the training of those students in Telugu and Oriya. I should like to know how he proposes to have the Oriya students trained if he proposes to appoint a Telugu gentleman, or if he is to appoint an Oriya gentleman how he is going to have Telugu students trained."

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasaya :—"Sir, it is not only a question of appointing a teacher whether Oriya or Telugu to the place. Training is given to a teacher by asking him to handle some class. There in Chicacole we have got all Telugu classes. I do not know how the Oriya teachers are going to handle Telugu classes and get trained. It is impossible for the Oriya teachers who go for training to secure the necessary training through the medium of Telugu. It is an impossibility. Of course the hon. Minister will say that this was done in the case of some students in previous years at Cocanada. But that is no reason why that anomalous system should be continued. Here we have got a school where there are no Oriya boys receiving education and you are going to have an Oriya teacher trained in that school. Is it not an impossibility and are you not going to waste all the money on that new scheme? Would it not be far better for the hon. Minister to open a secondary training section at Berhampur where there is every facility for training both Oriya and Telugu students? Berhampur is also more central. Therefore, this money which is going to be spent in Chicacole, I suggest, may be diverted to Berhampur where Telugu students and Oriya students will have the opportunity for getting trained. It may be pointed out that in the training school at Berhampur there are no regular Telugu classes; but the difficulty could be obviated when you know that there is the Kallikotta college which can be indented upon."

"The teachers to be trained here will go to the Kallikote Training School for the necessary training."

"In the interests of both the Telugu and Oriya students I suggest that the Oriya students should get their training in the Government Training School, Berhampur, and the Telugu students in the Training School at Chicacole. I hope that my suggestion will be carried out. I do not mean to oppose the motion, for I see too well the necessity for these additional classes. I am only objecting to the location of these classes. I hope therefore that the hon. Minister will satisfy these conditions before he sanctions the expenditure for the school at Chicacole."

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Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—"Sir, with regard to the Victoria College, Palghat, may I urge upon the hon. the Minister for Education that a much larger sum of money should be allotted to this institution. The college has recently applied for affiliation in a number of subjects for the B.A. Degree examination. The Madras University before granting affiliation will certainly insist upon the college being equipped completely as regards its buildings, etc. I understand that at present the building of the Victoria College, Palghat, is divided into two parts one separated from the other by a very noisy street. I am not now speaking for the University, but I shall say this much, that the affiliating authorities will insist on the college being situated in a thoroughly academic atmosphere before affiliation is granted. And certainly, one part of the College being separated from the other by a noisy and crowded street, does not contribute towards that academic atmosphere. The University will insist upon the change in the character of the building being accomplished before affiliation is granted. Therefore, as Government are very keen upon the affiliation of the College, I hope they will see their way to increasing to a much larger extent their expenditure on the Victoria College, Palghat. Let them give at least as much as may be necessary to rearrange the buildings in such a way that this noisy street does not intervene between the two halves of the college. If this is not done, Sir, I am afraid that the Victoria College, Palghat, stands no reasonable certainty of being affiliated to the University."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Sir, I associate myself though not with all the observations made by my hon. Friend Mr. Ratnaswami, at least with the request that a decent grant be made to the college to enable it to make the necessary building arrangements. The college building is on one side of the road and on the other side there are some buildings belonging to the college such as the hostel and others. As a matter of fact the college was raised to the first grade on the 1st July. It is now affiliated in certain groups. Government themselves have desired that the college should be affiliated in the other groups also and it is also understood that when the college teaches the other subjects also next year additional grants will be made."

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—"Sir, may I point out that the University has not yet granted affiliation in some of the subjects?"

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I am aware of that. I am also aware that the University sent out a commission to examine the building and the surroundings and they came to the conclusion that affiliation should be granted in the subjects which are now proposed to be introduced. Government, too, are certainly in earnest about getting this affiliation and I feel confident that Government will not be niggardly in spending the necessary amount, especially in view of the fact that they are spending a large sum of money to start a University for a few districts of the Presidency—I mean the Andhra University and I do not grudge the expenditure—and I hope that Government will not grudge the very small amount that is necessary to make the buildings commodious and fit to meet the requirements of the students in the college. I associate myself with my hon. Friend Professor Ratnaswami in his request that more money might be allotted to the Victoria College, Palghat, in the near future for the necessary expansion of the buildings."

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* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Sir, with reference to the observations made by the hon. Member Mr. Biswanath Das, I have to say that these training schools are of the secondary grade and not of the elementary grade. Therefore, the difficulty of language is not great in the secondary grade training schools, at least not so great as in the case of the elementary grade training schools. Moreover, these training schools take twenty Telugu students for one year and twenty Oriya students for the next year. I believe there are Oriya trained teachers in the school and there are facilities also for training teachers in that language."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I know what are the facilities that the hon. Minister refers to in connexion with the training school at Chicacole? Is the vernacular Oriya, the medium of instruction in the secondary grade training school?"

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" The school has been training Oriya students hitherto and therefore it is clear that there are facilities for training Oriya students in the school."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I inform the hon. Minister that Chicacole never trained a single Oriya student in the secondary grade?"

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" In Cocanada where there was a training school the Oriya students were trained in a Telugu school. Therefore, here they will not be in a worse position than there. If there are any difficulties in the matter of training like those referred to by the hon. Member, the matter will be looked into and the difficulties removed."

"As for the suggestion of my hon. Friend Mr. Ratnaswami in connexion with the Victoria College, Palghat, and its recognition by the University, I am sure necessary steps will be taken in order to provide the necessary buildings so that the University may be in a position to recognize it. Government have already made a provision in the budget of the current year and when the college develops next year more fully it will be possible to make further provisions for the building."

The motion was put to the House and carried. The grant was made.

Grant XVII (ii).

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Sir, I beg to move
*'that Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 5,98,604 under
 "Education—Transferred" for the expansion of elementary educa-
 tion.'*

"The grant consists of four heads :

Expansion of elementary education.	Amount required (1925-26). RS.
(i) Opening of 191 aided elementary schools in the areas of taluk boards not levying the education tax ...	23,302
(ii) Revision of the rates of teaching grants ...	4,30,000
(iii) Opening of 452 board elementary schools in the areas of taluk boards levying the education tax ...	1,10,288
(iv) Opening of 287 aided elementary schools in the areas of taluk boards levying the education tax ...	35,014
Total ...	<u>5,98,604</u>

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[Sir A. P. Patro]

"As regards item (i), there are now certain facilities for the expansion of elementary education through private agencies. But reports have reached us that there are 191 centres in the areas of taluk boards where private aided agencies are ready to start elementary schools. It is to help these areas of taluk boards which do not levy the education tax that this grant is needed.

"With regard to the revision of the teaching grants, it is proposed to encourage the three classes of teachers, viz., secondary untrained teachers, higher elementary trained and higher elementary untrained teachers. These classes of teachers are to be encouraged in the expansion of elementary education. In the first two cases it is proposed to raise the grant from Rs. 96 to Rs. 120; and in the third case it is proposed to raise the grant from Rs. 72 to Rs. 84. The lower elementary trained teachers are already there and it is proposed to increase the grant of the lower elementary untrained teachers from Rs. 48 to Rs. 60. The increased cost of paying grants to the existing schools on this scale is estimated at Rs. 4.30 lakhs. This grant takes effect only from the beginning of October. But if we calculate for the whole of the year it would come to about 6 lakhs. This grant is needed only for a portion of the year.

"As regards item (iii), in 1924, subsidies were granted to taluk boards which levy the education tax for the opening of 839 schools in the areas under their jurisdiction. In the current official year, subsidies were paid to such taluk boards for the opening of 1,017 additional elementary schools. According to the intensive educational survey instituted by Government, there are still in the areas of taluk boards levying the education tax 1,099 centres with a population of 500 and over to be provided with schools. It is proposed to pay subsidies to the taluk boards in question to enable them to open schools in 452 centres. The cost of the opening of the schools with effect from 1st October 1925 is Rs. 1,10,288. This is the third head of expenditure.

"I have already said that Government have proposed to encourage aided agencies for starting elementary schools in school-less areas, and even after the opening of 452 board elementary schools to which I have already referred there will still be left in the areas of these taluk boards which levy the education tax 647 centres with a population of 500 and over yet to be provided with schools. With a view to accelerate progress, it is proposed to encourage private agencies to open aided elementary schools in these areas. The inspecting officers report that private agencies are forthcoming to open aided elementary schools in 378 centres. In view, however, of the limited funds available, it is proposed to make provision in the current year for the opening of only 287 aided elementary schools in the areas of the taluk boards levying the education tax. The schools will be opened from 1st October 1925.

"Thus in the cess-levying and non-cess-levying area we propose to encourage aided agencies for the expansion of elementary education. In order to encourage the aided agencies to come forward we have revised the teaching grants so that they may be in a better position to open the schools.

"In the budget of the next year hon. Members will see that all provision is made to open schools in all villages with a population of 500 and over. There are still about 1,300 and odd village centres in both the cess-levying area and the non-cess-levying area which are in need of schools.

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It is our object in the course of the next few years to see that all villages, whether in the cess-levying area or in the non-cess-levying area, have a school each."

3-30 p.m.

* Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB :—" Sir, I beg to move
' that the allotment of Rs. 5,98,604 be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" The object of this motion is to discuss the policy of Government with regard to Mappilla education. It has been stated that the real cause of the recurrence of Mappilla rebellion is the utter ignorance of the Mappillas. It has also been said that the Mappillas are indifferent to education. I agree with the first complaint that the Mappillas are ignorant but I do not agree with those who say that the Mappillas are indifferent to education. Government must try their utmost to give education to the Mappillas. They have spent a lot of money for Mappilla education. There are separate schools; there are separate inspecting officers; and there is a separate training school for the Mappillas. I want to ask why there should be separate schools for the Mappillas. The Mappillas have no caste pollution. They have no caste system. The real kind of education which they require is, not separate schools and inspecting agencies but religious education, education concerning their religion. That has not been given by the Government. What I want to urge on the attention of the Government is that we should get the maximum advantage with the minimum of expenditure. That ought to be the policy of Government. The educational authorities have been giving them only secular education. They have not advanced further. The Mappillas require a sort of religious education. So far, the Government have tried to force down their throat a system of education which the Mappillas consider to be of only secondary importance. That is the cause of the failure of the Government to educate the Mappillas. What I would suggest to the Government is that they must follow a system which Sir, Mr. President, your predecessor, while he was Dewan of Travancore introduced in that State and which the Cochin State is going to follow. At present in the training school the educational authorities have arranged for one period a day for giving religious instructions to the boys. Besides, Government may say that we have not got trained teachers so far as religious instruction is concerned. We have Mulla teachers, i.e., teachers trained in giving religious instruction. We have got to establish a board for prescribing religious text-books, I mean Arabic books, and these teachers ought to be trained in teaching those books. Such a system of education has made a tremendous advance among the Mappillas in the Travancore State and it is really praiseworthy. Let me tell the hon. the Minister for Education that that system of education has also made a tremendous advance in my own place. In 1919 there was a board school in my place. In that school the attendance was very poor for several years. The average attendance of pupils was only 20 and the educational authorities and the local board had an idea of abolishing the school altogether. But in the year 1919 some of the local people approached the educational authorities to introduce religious classes in the same school and the former did so. In spite of this there was no rise in the attendance, because after the religious classes were over, the pupils ran to their homes. Their guardians did not care to send them back. In the latter part of 1919, the educational authorities were approached to introduce religious subjects in the time table as a tentative measure, and when they did so the attendance rose from 20 to 75. After a year girls also began to attend the school

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and the present strength is 155, out of which 50 or 55 pupils are girls. Therefore the introduction of Arabic teachers in Muhammadan schools that is schools intended for Muhammadans will be the only means of expanding education among the Mappillas. In a school consisting of 50 or 55 pupils if the Government appoint one Mulla teacher instead of appointing two or three ordinary teachers who are trained in giving secular instructions, they will reap the maximum fruit with the minimum of expenditure.

"There is another point which I wish to urge upon the attention of the Government. I would suggest to the hon. the Minister for Education that the present system introduced in the Malappuram training school, namely, giving religious instruction in the school for a period or two a day in a week will not suffice. It is of no use because the teacher will be able to devote only one hour in a week, which means he will have at his disposal about 52 hours for a year. I do not think anybody can acquire religious knowledge sufficient to teach others within such a short period. It is not so very easy. The alternative I would suggest is that there are learned men in Malabar whose services can be utilized for teaching religious subjects without any extra expenditure to the Government and without infringing the educational rules at the same time. If Government want that Muslim instruction should be given in Mappilla schools, they must allow a certain period each day during the school session to teach Arabic. This will help both the Government and the pupils a great deal in political matters also. Now the Mappillas consider secular education only as a secondary thing. Every Muslim does so. They therefore send their boys and girls to Mulla schools at first where they are given a sort of religious education which makes them fanatical and lead them to rebellion and such other outrages. Therefore I would suggest to the Government that they should introduce in public schools the system of education that I have chalked out so that the Mappilla boys and girls may be trained to become useful to their country and to the Government.

"The hon. the Minister for Education may tell us that he introduced compulsory education in certain parts of Malabar. That I say may not be a success because the Mappillas are a sort of indifferent people and they do not want to be taught secular subjects without religious knowledge. Besides, most of these people in the interior of Malabar are busy people and they are a working class of people. Even young children earn their livelihood and if they do not earn their daily bread they have to suffer. In these circumstances, if the Government instead of spending about Rs. 11,000 on compulsory education, were to spend the same amount in imparting education on the lines I have suggested, I am sure they can expect a tremendous achievement within a year. With these few words I move my motion."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU:—"Sir, I very strongly support the point raised by my hon. Friend Mr. Uppi Sahib. I simply want to point out that his arguments apply not only to Mappilla pupils but also to other pupils that are being taught in other schools. It is not merely the number of schools that are being established that will count, but it is the sort of education that is imparted in those schools that will count. It may be tiring the hon. Members at the fag end of a long session if I were to go into some minor and elementary matters in connexion with this subject. But after

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all it is those elementary and minor matters that count much, because a huge sum of Rs. 5,98,604 is spent upon elementary education with which what I am going to say is closely connected. I recently requested the hon. the Minister for Education to consider the sort of education which is to be given in these elementary schools. It falls to my lot in my own humble sphere to live and watch the instructions that are being given in the elementary schools in my area. It is most distressing to note that the little children who go to these schools, when they are taught Telugu are made to lose the beautiful Telugu intonation of the sounds and are made to cram and follow—I do not mean any disparagement to any missionary gentlemen who may or may not be present here—the intonations of European or American Missionaries whose pronunciation will not be after all right. The education that is given in schools is not the right sort of education in Telugu which is connected with the real ethical structure of our whole life. Besides, the sounds which they are taught to pronounce are not the same sounds which they acquire in their homes, from their mothers and grandmothers. The lessons that are taught to them about birds, and any story or fiction which they are asked to read are not suited to the genius of the race, but certain strange things to which these little young ones in elementary schools are not accustomed. I hope my hon. Friend the Minister for Education will take these things very seriously into consideration. I am very earnest in this matter because I was very much distressed to hear their pronunciation in a different manner.

“Then about the sort of education that is imparted in these schools. We have had a text-book committee appointed and some of us do not know whether it exists now. They prescribe some books containing stories, not like those which are familiar to our children, but which are foreign. The little folk cannot be expected to know these stories unless they come to advanced courses of study.

“These are the things which I would earnestly request the hon. the Minister to look into, and also to bear in mind that it is not the number of schools that counts but it is the method and the sort of education that is imparted in them that counts for much. With these few words I support the motion.”

* Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—“Sir, may I know if we can discuss the several aspects of elementary education given in schools or we should confine our attention only to the education of the Mappillas?”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“I do not suppose that Mr. Uppi Sahib wanted to make any reduction in the demand. But he simply wanted to make some remarks on the quality of education given in Mappilla schools. As Mr. Anjaneyulu said something on the quality of education given in elementary schools, I think the hon. Member from Nellore is also at liberty to make his own observations.”

* Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—“I shall refer to some of the aspects of elementary education for which provision has been made in this demand. So far as steps taken by the hon. the Minister for Education for expanding elementary education are concerned he may say that he has satisfied this House.

“I first wish to refer to the benefit which taluk boards that are not levying the educational cess derive. I state at the outset that

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I belong to a district which is not levying the educational cess. That is why I am confining my remarks to that aspect of the question. I may remind the hon. the Minister of the debate in the Council when he made a similar motion relating to this grant. It was then pointed out that while all possible facilities ought to be given in the case of those local boards which have been able to levy the education tax, the case of those taluk boards which are not able to levy it ought not to be neglected. And I believe the hon. Minister said at that time that that aspect would also be considered, not that he committed himself to any particular view but he said that he would, in considering the amount of the grant, take into account this aspect of the matter as well as the capacity of the local boards to levy this education tax. It is open to the Government to consider after examining the various budgets of the local boards whether it is possible for a local board which is deficient in its resources and which has increased its other taxes to the maximum extent, to levy this education tax. If you are satisfied from the condition and resources of the local board that it cannot levy the education cess, is it fair or reasonable that it should not be allowed a reasonable portion of the money allotted for elementary education? That is an aspect of the question which I brought to the notice of the hon. the Minister on a former occasion, and I repeat it again now, because we find the provision made for this class of boards is quite different from that made in the case of the other class. This will be quite apparent from the fact that an amount of Rs. 23,302 has been allotted for 191 aided schools in the former class of boards, whereas for 287 aided schools in the other class of boards (those that levy the education tax), an amount of Rs. 35,014 has been provided. Again, for the opening of 452 board elementary schools in the second class of boards, an amount of Rs. 1,10,288 has been provided. Therefore, in the first place I would request the hon. Minister to consider even now the desirability of having a better type of schools even in those local boards of the former class, wherever he is satisfied that such boards are not in a position to levy the education tax. If there is a local board which has got the convenience and the capacity to levy the education tax but neglects or refuses to do so, I can understand the hon. Minister treating it altogether differently from other boards. Now, considering the provision which remains so far, I should like to know the principles on which this question is going to be solved. I find from the note of the Minister that the inspecting officers report that private agencies are forthcoming to open aided elementary schools in the areas of taluk boards. He has just told us that the number of villages to be covered was about 1,300 and odd. The provision of 191 schools for so many villages is, I submit, quite inadequate and insufficient to get the advancement of elementary education desired. As to the principles adopted, I should like to know whether in all those cases the principles were approved by the district educational councils and sanctioned by them before they came up to the Government, because all that the note says is that the inspecting officers report that private agencies are forthcoming, etc. Upon what basis they made their recommendations I cannot see. So long as the district educational councils have been organized, and so long as the Minister himself has been in a position to give them increased powers and to make them responsible for elementary education, I think it would be far more satisfactory that those proposals only should come up before the Government which are thoroughly examined by the district educational councils. Even now it

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is not too late. It is quite desirable that the schemes so far prepared may be sent for modification or suggestion, and the Government may consider the desirability of changing them. It is better to ask the councils to make suggestions to the Government for the purpose of financing elementary schools.

"I think that that aspect also deserves consideration. I hope the hon. Minister will make efforts to increase the grant, and that he will make a more satisfactory division of the allotted amount. I find that the provision made for elementary grade teachers is too small and much less than the pay of peons and other menials; and a man who really qualifies himself and takes up this profession, ought not to be paid so low. I think it is desirable to examine the question further and see that the rate is increased.

"So far as the opening of board elementary schools is concerned, I have no further remarks to offer; that is the least extent to which one ought to have gone. I do not understand on what principles the distinction is made between 482 board elementary schools and 281 aided elementary schools in the matter of selection, whether the opinions of the taluk boards were obtained, and whether it is according to the expressed wishes of those boards that the 482 schools were provided, or whether it is merely upon the recommendations of the inspecting officer that this classification was made. If the boards concerned sent up proposals in the matter of this classification, I have no quarrel with that position at all. If otherwise so far as the boards are concerned they are in a position to levy the cess, I do not think there is any justification whatever for the distinction being made. I do not see why this differentiation is made between 281 aided schools and 482 board schools.

"These are the few remarks I wish to offer. I do not wish to say anything about the quality of education imparted in these schools, because I always believe that the local boards have ample discretion in the matter of the quality of education imparted in their schools. I refuse to believe that the Government have the power to interfere in these matters, and if the Director of Public Instruction or other officers interfere with the quality of education, I think the management of the schools are entitled to resist. Control should be confined only to exceptional cases of objectionable or proscribed literature. Barring that, the management of the schools are at perfect liberty to determine the quality of education to be imparted in their schools. It is for that reason that I do not think it is necessary to ask the Government to help us in the matter of teaching."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Sir, I wish to place only one or two points before the hon. Minister for Education. On different occasions I have said enough regarding the difficulties of the depressed classes in getting admission into elementary schools. Sir, in a memorandum issued by the Government I find that out of 6,700 elementary schools, only in 600 schools the members of the depressed classes are being admitted. Now I want to know this: what about the remaining schools? My fear is that to these new schools which are going to be started the members of the depressed classes will have no free access. Therefore I should like to suggest, in order to obviate these disabilities, that these schools should be started as far as possible in the localities of the depressed classes or very near to such localities. Then again, coming to the present day education imparted in these schools, let me say frankly that the instruction given in these schools is hopeless. (Laughter). Sir, I may illustrate

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The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"That is a matter left to the discretion of local bodies. Because if a man is elected president to a local board and if the same man is also elected chairman of a municipal council, the Government cannot interfere."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Am I to understand that the Government have never at any time appointed a man who was already chairman of a municipal council as president of the district board?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"That question does not arise."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"May I know whether the headquarters for the board and the municipality are in the same place in such cases or in different places?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"It may be in the same place. It is not unusual that the headquarters of a district board and the headquarters of a municipal council are in one and the same place."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"May I know a case where the same place happened to be the headquarters of both the bodies?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"My hon. Friend can easily get the information by a reference to the Annual Civil List."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"May I know whether complaints have been received from the citizens concerned in connexion with having one gentleman functioning in both capacities?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Sir, I have only to say that these complaints had better to be made to the electorates."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether the chairman of the Coimbatore Municipality was also nominated as district board president?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Yes. He was elected later on as chairman."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Was not the nomination made when he was chairman of the municipality?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"But he was also later on elected as chairman."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Was not the chairman of the Bellary Municipality similarly appointed president of the district board?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Yes."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"May I know whether it was the case with the president of the Coimbatore District Board?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"The president was nominated to the district board, and he was later on elected as chairman of the municipality."

The Coimbatore water-supply scheme.

* 464 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received several memorials from the residents of Coimbatore objecting to the Coimbatore water-supply scheme as at present decided upon ;

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that do not levy the cess is 43. If we take into consideration the amount proposed to be spent in the area where the elementary education cess is levied for both the board elementary schools and the aided schools, the amount comes to something like Rs. 1.45 lakhs in round numbers; whereas if we take the area where education cess is not levied, a sum of only Rs. 23,000 is proposed to be utilized. That means that there is to be a very great difference between these two areas as to the amount which the Government propose to utilize on them for elementary education. You will see that after all it is the masses that are to be benefited by the provincial funds. But the Government want to make a difference between the area where education cess is levied and the area where it is not levied. There may be a difference or a fight between the ideals of those local authorities and those of the Government. But are the people to suffer on account of such a difference of opinion between the local authorities and the Government? Is it not the duty of the Government to see that even aided institutions are pushed through in those areas to a very great extent, though they may be justified in refusing to hand over any additional funds to the taluk board because the ideas of the Government are not adopted by the taluk board? Even whether they should so interfere with the views of the taluk board is quite a different matter. But is it not the duty of the State to provide education to the masses even in those areas? Are they to be neglected? If you spend Rs. 1.45 lakhs in the case of 82 taluk boards and propose to spend only Rs. 23,000 in the case of the other 43 taluk boards, how can you justify it from the standpoint of the general taxpayer or from the standpoint of the masses that are concerned? Are these people to be made to suffer simply because the taluk board does not agree to levy an education cess? Is it a justifiable ground for spending a less amount in those areas?

"Again, Sir, I want to point out that a very serious difference of opinion exists between certain authorities and the Government in the matter of aiding aided institutions. If we just examine the note supplied to us, we see in paragraph 4 that even in the case of taluk boards which agree to levy education cess there are about 378 centres where aided institutions are to be started. I believe, Sir, that institutions are already working in some of these centres. Then, it is generally the case that unless the institution is in existence for nearly a year it cannot earn the grant or be recommended by the inspecting authorities to earn the grant. Under the circumstances, what do the Government do? Instead of giving aid for all the 378 schools, they only propose to aid 287, leaving 91 schools out of consideration. Of course, as far as those taluk boards are concerned, they have consented to start a large number of schools. My submission is this: why should they not decrease the number of board schools and aid the 91 aided schools and utilize the surplus money for starting board schools? They ought to have begun this; they ought to have dealt with all the aided schools that do require grant for the current year and, if there is a surplus, they ought to have proceeded to start board schools under the agency of the taluk boards. But I believe they have reversed the process in which they ought to proceed and have created discontent among one of the most important agencies of elementary education, namely, the aided agency. I wish to know whether there are more aided schools to be aided in the areas where no education cess is levied. This statement shows that Government are prepared to aid 191 institutions in these areas. I wish to know whether that is

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all the number which the inspecting authorities have recommended to be started. Is there a different number that has been recommended by the inspecting authorities out of which the Government or the Director has chosen only 191 institutions? Of course, that is a matter which requires to be answered by facts and figures. If really there are more institutions in those unassessed areas, I think it is the duty of the Government to go to the help of the people thereby aiding aided institutions and also instruct the inspecting authorities to take every possible step necessary to start aided institutions in those areas where the taluk boards do not levy education cess."

Mr. N. DEVENDRUDU :—“ మెంటరీ విద్యయందు నిర్మించుటకు తేబడిన సస్టి మెంటరీ గ్రాంట్లు (2) నెంబరులో (3) పేర్కొనుటలో విధించిన 452 స్కూళ్లలో ఆంధ్ర దేశములో ఆది-యాంధ్రులకు యెన్ని స్కూళ్లు పెట్టుటకు యేర్పాటు చేసినారు, లేక చేయబోతారా (4) పేర్కొను 287 యాంధ్ర స్కూళ్లను ఆది-యాంధ్రులకు యెన్ని నిర్మించుటకు యేర్పాటు చేసినారు, స్కూళ్ల గ్రాంట్లు విశయమయి మీరు విధించిన సొమ్ము లెక్కచూడగా రె॥ 1 కి 10 రూపాయలు చొ॥ అసగా సాలుకు 120 రూపాయలుగా యున్నది. అది చాలదు. ఇచ్చట యున్న పెద్ద ఆశీస్సు అంబూ B.A., B.L. వ్యాసు చేసినవారు. అందరు ఆక్షరవ్యాసం అచ్చటనుంచి చేసి రావలసినవారుగాన నెలిమెంటరీ విద్యకు గౌరవము యిచ్చి హెచ్చు గ్రాంట్లు హెచ్చు శీతలంబువారిని ఆది-యాంధ్రులకు విద్య వృద్ధికొరకు శ్రీ విద్యాశాసక మంత్రిగారు ఆలోచిస్తారని ఆ ప్రకారం చేస్తారని సమ్మతమైనాను.”

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I was considerably surprised at hearing certain of the remarks that fell from the hon. the Leader of the Opposition in respect to the question of the aid given by the Government for the expansion of elementary education. He has laid down propositions and has made statements which I feel bound to say are not calculated to expedite the expansion of elementary education. He has been more solicitous of those bodies which will not do anything to expand elementary education.”

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—“ I was solicitous of the areas and not of the bodies.”

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ He has been more solicitous of the areas which were under the jurisdiction of bodies which will not for the moment think of the expansion of elementary education, which will follow a policy of masterly inactivity, which will keep themselves in power because all taxation is not popular, and he has been far less solicitous and has done far less justice to those bodies which in the face of tremendous opposition have done their best to promote the expansion of elementary education. I have already stated the principle that Government should help first and foremost those who try to help themselves. It is said to be a principle which even the Almighty is guided by, and when Government in most respects tries to play the Almighty in this country it ought certainly not to lose sight of that principle. Taking this question of elementary education, you have passed an Act which gives power to local bodies to levy a definite amount of cess for the expansion of elementary education, and the Government are bound under the Act to give at least a rupee for every rupee raised by them. There are taluk boards which in the face of tremendous opposition, which in the face of the possibilities of losing elected seats by some of its members

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and I think that the number according to the parliamentary practice, should be limited to 15. We have considered the matter carefully and have placed our view before the House. I think this number would do as good work as 30 or 40. We come from long distances for the sake of our people. The people in the country wonder what we are all doing in this Council. After all, our work does not correspond to their wishes. Most of our resolutions supported by a large majority of the Council, have not been considered by the Cabinet.

"I can assure you that there is a great discontent among the people as to the work we do or are expected to do in the Council. Considering these facts, is it worth while that we should have committees of 40 and 50 for every Bill? My own humble opinion is, 15 should be the maximum for almost every Bill, including the wonderful Religious Endowments Bill and the Irrigation Bill, and, as for the other Bills that have recently come up, like the Borstal Bill, I would limit the number to 10. Therefore in the interests of efficiency and economy and the duty we owe to the people, I would urge that this amendment should be passed. According to parliamentary practice 15 is the normal number. In Parliament, there are standing committees for railways, for marine, etc., for which experts are necessary. So far as these things are concerned, there are what are called permanent standing committees. In ordinary matters, select committees are appointed. When we bear in mind that in a Parliament consisting of over 650 members the parliamentary practice fixes the maximum ordinarily at 15, I think this House ought to adopt that practice in the interests of efficiency as well as in the interests of the people."

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI:—I beg to give my hearty support to the amendment so ably moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Saldanha. It is preposterous that a small assembly like ours should in any one of its committees contain as many as 30 or 40 members. As the hon. the Law Member has pointed out the select committee is a very businesslike body, and I cannot understand how 30 or 40 members can be brought together in a businesslike body. The practice of the House of Commons has been quoted, and I think we shall be following very healthy traditions if we limit very rigorously the number on our select committees.

"There is one other reason on which I should like to urge the limitation of the number of members on select committees. There is a temptation that always presents itself to Members of Government Benches to increase the number of members of select committees, especially towards the fag-end of the session. That temptation ought to be taken away from before the minds of hon. Members in Government Benches, and if for very special reasons the number has to be increased, the remedy should be made to lie in the hands of the House. The House ought to discuss the question fairly and squarely whether the limit is to be exceeded, and if there are overwhelming reasons I am sure the House will come to the rescue and appoint a more numerous select committee. Therefore, in the interest of business, in the interests of purity of discussion in this House, I would recommend this amendment to the unanimous acceptance of the House."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU:—"I also am inclined to think that there must be a limit to the number of members of select committees; but, what creates difficulty is the way in which we have

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"But I think that the Government ought not to be expected to pursue such an unfair policy. I am willing to agree that there are taluk boards which, owing to their extreme poverty and the extreme poverty of the people, are unable to bear even the existing taxation put upon them, and have to be treated in a different manner. There are a few taluk boards in this presidency which cannot levy education tax in the same way as the other taluk boards. I am ready and willing to recognize that we must make an exception in their cases. But you cannot say that the forty-three taluk boards which do not levy a single pie of taxation, all of them deserve that sort of treatment."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—" May I know how many taluk boards out of these forty-three boards belong to the class he now mentioned."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" According to my estimate, not more than ten taluk boards come under that category. I am fairly certain that thirty of these taluk boards do not deserve any special treatment for the attitude they have taken. I am fairly certain that there are taluk boards which have rich inhabitants and have not levied any education tax as other taluk boards have done and which have not yet come forward with their proposals. I take serious objection to the Government going out of their way to help these boards which have not taxed themselves fully and completely. Some principle ought to be laid down in these matters and placed before the hon. the Minister himself. At a conference which was held two years back at Ootacamund, this aspect of the case, namely, that it was not fair that such taluk boards ought to be placed on the same level as other taluk boards which have done their best in the matter, was discussed.

"Now Sir, as regards aided institutions, a great deal is being said about the attitude the Government are taking with respect to aided education. I may allow such sentiments as are indulged in in favour of aided institutions to pass. Let us clearly understand the position. Aided education is certainly good. Private education has done more for us than Government education can do for the next twenty years. In elementary education, in secondary education, in collegiate education more than anything else, aided agency has done a tremendous lot to promote the educational facilities of this Presidency. But at the same time we have to recognize that so far as the expansion of elementary education is concerned, there is clear difference between aided education and board or Government education. I shall tell you the reason for that difference. The time is come; it is bound to come much sooner than many of us expect, when a fairly comprehensive system of free and compulsory elementary education will be an accomplished fact. Anyone who has seen the working of the system of free and compulsory education in the several municipalities in which it has been introduced, will realize in a minute the tremendous obstacles that arise from the fact that a large proportion of that education is in aided hands. I am willing, as I said, to appreciate the efforts made by aided institutions. But I am also bound to place this aspect that the greater the percentage of aided elementary education in an area, the more difficult it will be for you to introduce free and compulsory elementary education. Therefore while you are bound to give all facilities for aided education which exists to-day, while you are bound to increase the grants that are to be paid to aided institutions, while you are bound to appreciate and encourage those institutions and authorities

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that do not levy the cess is 43. If we take into consideration the amount proposed to be spent in the area where the elementary education cess is levied for both the board elementary schools and the aided schools, the amount comes to something like Rs. 1.45 lakhs in round numbers; whereas if we take the area where education cess is not levied, a sum of only Rs. 23,000 is proposed to be utilized. That means that there is to be a very great difference between these two areas as to the amount which the Government propose to utilize on them for elementary education. You will see that after all it is the masses that are to be benefited by the provincial funds. But the Government want to make a difference between the area where education cess is levied and the area where it is not levied. There may be a difference or a fight between the ideals of those local authorities and those of the Government. But are the people to suffer on account of such a difference of opinion between the local authorities and the Government? Is it not the duty of the Government to see that even aided institutions are pushed through in those areas to a very great extent, though they may be justified in refusing to hand over any additional funds to the taluk board because the ideas of the Government are not adopted by the taluk board? Even whether they should so interfere with the views of the taluk board is quite a different matter. But is it not the duty of the State to provide education to the masses even in those areas? Are they to be neglected? If you spend Rs. 1.45 lakhs in the case of 82 taluk boards and propose to spend only Rs. 23,000 in the case of the other 43 taluk boards, how can you justify it from the standpoint of the general taxpayer or from the standpoint of the masses that are concerned? Are these people to be made to suffer simply because the taluk board does not agree to levy an education cess? Is it a justifiable ground for spending a less amount in those areas?

"Again, Sir, I want to point out that a very serious difference of opinion exists between certain authorities and the Government in the matter of aiding aided institutions. If we just examine the note supplied to us, we see in paragraph 4 that even in the case of taluk boards which agree to levy education cess there are about 378 centres where aided institutions are to be started. I believe, Sir, that institutions are already working in some of these centres. Then, it is generally the case that unless the institution is in existence for nearly a year it cannot earn the grant or be recommended by the inspecting authorities to earn the grant. Under the circumstances, what do the Government do? Instead of giving aid for all the 378 schools, they only propose to aid 287, leaving 91 schools out of consideration. Of course, as far as those taluk boards are concerned, they have consented to start a large number of schools. My submission is this: why should they not decrease the number of board schools and aid the 91 aided schools and utilize the surplus money for starting board schools? They ought to have begun this; they ought to have dealt with all the aided schools that do require grant for the current year and, if there is a surplus, they ought to have proceeded to start board schools under the agency of the taluk boards. But I believe they have reversed the process in which they ought to proceed and have created discontent among one of the most important agencies of elementary education, namely, the aided agency. I wish to know whether there are more aided schools to be aided in the areas where no education cess is levied. This statement shows that Government are prepared to aid 191 institutions in these areas. I wish to know whether that is

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cannot possibly tax themselves and extend the hand of beneficence to these areas; thirdly and lastly in some cases, I would be prepared to say that the Government ought to refuse help to such recalcitrant taluk boards and other bodies as do not see their way to tax themselves."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"As a representative of the Indian Christians of five districts, I may point out that we, Christians, have in the past spent large sums of money and have sacrificed not only money but also men and women at the altar of education. We are particularly anxious that we should have our own elementary schools with religious education. Our wish is that we should have—in every village where there are Christians—our own schools manned and equipped by our own teachers, whether for boys or girls. At the same time, we have our own difficulties and drawbacks and therefore we have to depend to a great extent on the aid of Government for maintaining our schools. It will take years, and I am sure at least half a century, to have free and compulsory primary education in the mufassal outside municipal areas. Until then we have to depend to a great extent upon private enterprise for maintaining schools and therefore I hope the Government will not stint in its policy of grants to private schools. As pointed out in the *Madras Mail* the other day, there is a good deal of difference between the principle laid down or the great hopes held out by the hon. the Education Minister to give liberal grants and the actual practice. I do not say he is responsible. In practice it is found that the educational authorities are not so generous as they ought to be towards private schools. As pointed out by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition, there are many private schools which ought to receive more generous aid in their efforts to maintain schools. I know that our priests, our laity, our nuns and our sisters have to start schools at great sacrifice of teachers and money and they expect much more liberal support from the educational authorities.

"Now, I shall come to board schools and to places where we cannot have our own schools. In such cases we hope that every facility will be given for religious education. The point which has been raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Uppi Sahib, is as regards the facilities to be given for religious education in board schools. I am aware that in some cases such facilities are not easily forthcoming. Like the Muhammadans, we Christians attach great importance to religious education, and I hope that every facility will be given to teachers who are willing to give religious education.

"I would go further and join with Mr. Uppi Sahib in urging that some sort of pecuniary aid also may be given to the teachers who at much sacrifice are prepared to give religious education. I am sure that religious education will be of great aid in making people loyal and disciplined, and that this pecuniary aid from Government will not be money thrown away. In the absence of my hon. Friend from Kanara, Mr. Abdulla Sahib, I may point out that in our district of South Kanara, with a population 1,30,000 Mappilas—I echo the sentiments and the aspiration of my hon. Friend Mr. Uppi Sahib—pecuniary facilities should be given for the spread of religious instruction among both Muhammadans and Christians.

"The third point is, in a large number of schools, the pupils are drawn from agriculturists and from different trades, and I hope that in elementary schools, after they pass the 3rd class provision will be made for giving

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them some sort of vocational education or manual training of an elementary kind. So that our people, who are to a great extent agricultural ryots and may practise some profession or trade, will not be divorced from their profession, and that manual training is sure to help them a great deal in their trade or calling."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—"I move that the question be now put."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—"On a point of order, Sir, I rose up when my hon. Friend, Mr. Ethirajulu Nayudu, wanted to move the motion for closure."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Minister should reply. I propose to put the closure motion after the hon. Minister replies."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I do not propose to review the whole question generally, but to one or two points that have been raised I should like to make a short reply. I quite sympathise with the demand for higher teaching grants. That is a matter which is entirely financial. We in the Education Department have prepared a scale and, after a good deal of discussion with the Finance Department, we came to a sort of compromise, and that is adopted for the time being. As we go on working on the scale for some time and as our finances improve, it will be quite possible that the elementary teachers of the secondary as well as higher schools may be able to receive greater consideration."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"May I know whether the lowest grade teachers will also be considered?"

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"With regard to the trained and untrained lower elementary teachers, I have absolutely no sympathy for them; because it is the policy of the Government to discourage the lower elementary teachers as much as possible. The lower elementary teachers consist of persons who have read up to only fourth standard and these fourth standard people are sent up to the training schools where they receive one year of general education and afterwards they are said to be prepared in the method of teaching. It is a costly system and a useless system, and therefore we have substituted for the lower elementary trained teachers those who have passed the third form. Hence if we do not provide teaching grants for the lower elementary teachers, it is because they are inefficient teachers and they are useless for the purpose of carrying on the expansion of elementary education."

"Then, Sir, another point was raised. If certain local bodies do not discharge the responsibility cast upon them, are we to mulct the people of the area; are the people of the area to suffer because a local body does not discharge its responsibility? I am afraid the answer consists in the question itself. If the people of the area are not able to find what their wants are and provide for these as required under the statute, is it not the duty of the Government to come to their help?"

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—"They are all illiterates."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"It is not a question of illiteracy. Local bodies consist of representatives of these poor people. Those representatives who voice forth the sentiments, the feelings and the needs of a particular locality ought to be able to realize that the particular locality

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requires expansion of education, and therefore they must carry out the statutory obligation cast on them. When they fail to discharge their responsibility, they cannot be treated with any amount of consideration, but in order to save the people, as the hon. Member for the City of Madras has pointed out, to combat illiteracy and ignorance, Government have taken upon itself the responsibility of providing education, not through the agency of the local body, not through the advice and support of the representatives who do not care to discharge their responsibility to the people, but through an aided agency, aided agency such as a local panchayat where a village consists of a well-constituted panchayat which is able to manage such things, or a panchayat which is constituted for a group of villages that will maintain and manage the aided institutions, or private enterprise of patriotic persons who have got the love of the village, love of their own surroundings in their mind and will be able to start schools in the local area for the purpose of securing the expansion of elementary education. Those persons that come forward and open new schools in that area, will be encouraged with higher revised grants. Again there is the mission agency that is working. If they open new schools and take pains to promote expansion of education, we take advantage of that for promoting the expansion in the areas where the local body has failed to discharge its responsibility. We have not neglected these areas. The power of control and management of elementary education is denied to these bodies, because they have failed to discharge the responsibility entrusted to them.

"Then, Sir, in regard to the opening up of new schools, after the Elementary Education Act has been passed, district educational councils have been constituted in every district. They consist of representatives from local bodies and other aided institutions. It is their primary responsibility to submit schemes to the Government for the extension of education. Yet we have not received any such schemes. Therefore an intensive educational survey was carried on, and the elementary education survey is now complete for the whole Presidency. According to this survey, we have now information for each taluk as to where a school is provided or is required; viz., what is the local amount of support that is available in that particular centre, or what is the local aid that will come forth in connexion with school building or management? These are taken into consideration and the survey shows us at one glance what are the villages that are yet to be provided for and how these villages have to be provided for, whether it is through the local bodies or aided agency. Therefore the results of the intensive survey give us at a glance what is actually required for the purpose of securing the expansion. After having had these results, we are going on with the expansion, and in the course of the next two years, we hope to find a school in each village.

"With regard to the remarks that have fallen from Mr. Uppi Sahib, I can only say that his views are quite characteristic, and I have sympathy with his aspiration. But there is another side to the question. We appointed a committee in 1922, consisting of representative Mappillas and also educational authorities; they have gone into the whole question of the expansion of Mappilla education and the curriculum or course of studies that are to be adopted for the purpose of educating the Mappilla youths. They have given us a report. In that report details are furnished. In accordance with their recommendations, we have already taken steps, and therefore I

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may say we are not unmindful of the progress of elementary education in Mappilla areas, not unmindful of the quality of education that is given to the Mappilla youths in that area. Sir, that report has already been published. From the beginning of July, the scheme that was recommended by the committee has come into force.

"My Friend Mr. Saldanha said that Christian schools demand or require some protection, and that Christian religion ought to be taught in these schools. He is a product of Christian education. Christian missions have been managing a number of elementary schools, and I believe one of their objects is that they should give a Christian atmosphere to the institution. When there is such a Christian atmosphere in the schools to which Christian boys are sent, I fail to see what further the State can do in order to aid Christian religion."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I referred to the Board schools."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I move that the question be now put."

The motion for closure was put and carried.

* Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB :—"I withdraw my amendment."

The amendment having been withdrawn, the main motion was put and carried. The grant was made.



* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 47,900 under "Education—Transferred". The amount will be met from the surplus due to the remission of the Provincial contribution to the Government of India.'

"Sir, this item consists of the following :—

'Grants to the University—Rs. 33,000, for payment of travelling allowances to the Members and University authorities, and for the purchase of books for the University Library; then the appointment of a district educational officer in the bifurcated Kistna district; the employment of a personal assistant to the Principal, Law College; Grant-in-aid to village panchayats for the maintenance of libraries—Rs. 8,000.'

"It has been recognized that the village libraries constitute a useful adjunct for the dissemination of mass education. It is proposed to distribute the grant of Rs. 8,000 among select village panchayats to enable them to organize libraries in their respective areas. Two of the conditions under which the grant will be made are that the panchayat should provide the furniture and staff required for the library, and contribute from its own funds or subscription, a sum not less than the amount of Government-grant. The library shall be open to all classes of people. This is in addition to what is already provided in the budget for aiding libraries which are recognized or assisted by local bodies."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"Sir, I wish to know whether the libraries are to be free libraries or whether admission to it will be restricted to some?"

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* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" They will be open to all classes of the population."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—" Is it going to be of the class of libraries which charge some subscription or is it going to be a free library? "

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" It is not intended to restrict or exclude any particular class."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" The question is whether the membership excludes any particular community or whether membership is free? "

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" They have to contribute some money also. "

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

Grant XIX.

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Mr. Deputy President, I move
' that the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 6,25,000
under " Public Health and Vital Statistics—Transferred " for grants
to local boards for improvement of water-supply in rural areas.'

" I am sure, Sir, that hon. Members will admit that any Government which claims to be a civilized Government must aim at doing the greatest good to the largest number of people. In India we have a large majority of people living in villages. In our own province, rural population forms more than 85 per cent of the total population. That being so, it is only right that we members of this Government should pay reasonable attention to the wants of the village population. Leave alone this theoretical consideration, leave alone also the ethical consideration, viz., that because the Government realises the largest portion of their revenues from rural areas therefore it is incumbent on them to see that at least a decent portion of it is spent in improving the condition of village life. Let us confine ourselves to the practical issues of the work-a-day world. Thanks to Mr. Montagu and his Act on Indian Reforms of the masses, living in rural areas have been awakened to a sense of political consciousness. More than that, they have been armed with political power. They have been given the right to vote and send their representatives to the highest councils. Is it possible for any Ministry to resist the demands of the representatives of the people, and carry on their administration on the Transferred side? I say it is not. Mr. Deputy President, we are responsible to the representatives of the people. My hon. Colleagues and myself realized our responsibilities to the representatives of the people and ever since we assumed charge of our offices we have been anxious to see that the rural demands are satisfied to the best of our ability. But unfortunately during the last four years on account of the heavy contribution which the Central Government insisted upon this Government paying them we have been greatly handicapped for want of funds. We did our level best by cutting short expenditure by carrying on rigorously the policy of retrenchment; and taking up such schemes of improvement as are urgently due my hon. Colleague has been able to extend primary education in the rural areas. My other hon. Colleague, the Minister for Development, has done something in the matter of development of industries, etc., and I

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too have been able to introduce an extended system of public health in this Presidency and give sanitary arrangements for the rural areas. I have also introduced the system of medical relief in rural areas. Now that the Government of India have been able to remit a portion of our contribution we are in a position to do more and we have been able to get from the other side of the Government (Reserved Half) a large portion, almost the whole of the amount released deducting the deficit in the budget. Thus we have been able to introduce some of these schemes. One of these schemes is the improvement of water-supply in the rural areas. It is for this scheme that this amount has been asked for.

"Mr. Deputy President, there are some token motions of which notice is given. My friend Mr. Veerian has asked us whether we are going to do anything for the depressed classes. I say, care will be taken to see that as far as possible their needs are attended to."

* Mr. C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"May I know how much is going to be allotted for the purpose?"

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"I cannot say how much. It will be left to the discretion of the local bodies."

"Another friend of mine has asked us the policy which underlies the distribution of this amount. I can only say that the Government propose to give grants to these local bodies on their undertaking to pay equal amounts. Moreover the payments are to be made under the post payment system. If the object of the hon. Members who have given notice of token motions is to have this information, I give it."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"Sir, I only want to suggest that it would be very difficult for the local bodies to find half the amount to enable them to apply for the other half from the Government. I know as a matter of fact that the taluk boards have either no funds or that they will not allot funds. In some areas there is absolutely no drinking water, even no water for any purpose. The restriction which the Government propose to impose, namely, that unless taluk boards allot money they would not give money, I think, would cause a great deal of hardship. I would therefore appeal to the hon. Minister to make an exception in the case of taluk boards which are unable to find the money and where rural watersupply is very urgently called for. Unless he makes some such relaxation the whole scheme will not be a success."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, if the local body concerned does all that it can and yet finds itself unable to contribute 50 per cent of the net cost, then such a case will be considered."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Sir, I have given notice of a token motion to reduce the allotment by Rs. 100 with a view to discuss the necessity for setting apart a definite percentage of this sum for the improvement of water-supply in rural areas to the members of the depressed classes and to suggest suitable methods to complete the improvement within a definite period. It is a well-known fact that water scarcity is very keenly felt in almost all the districts. In this connexion I thank the hon. Members who took part in the debates on this subject during the budget discussion on behalf of the poor class of people. Sir, there are three important elements in this world and I consider that water is one of those three. Is it possible for any human being or for any other living being to exist in this world

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without a sufficient quantity of water? Well, Sir, this scheme would not have been necessitated had the local boards provided sufficient amount for drinking water-supply in their budget every year. If you will kindly peruse the budgets prepared by the local boards you will find large sums set apart for maintaining roads, removing prickly-pears and other things ignoring this important item of water-supply. Now, Sir, what I wish to suggest is that out of this general allotment a definite percentage or a definite sum should be set apart for the amelioration of the condition of the depressed classes so that there may be some guarantee that sufficient number of wells will be provided. Now we are going to entrust the whole thing to the local boards. In several of the local boards there are no representatives belonging to the depressed classes and in several of them though there are representatives they are not able enough to voice forth the feelings of the community. In such cases, Sir, how is it possible for them to tackle this problem and claim for the depressed classes funds sufficient for the purpose of sinking more wells or to repair existing wells in order to give sufficient quantity of water to the poorer classes of people to exist in this world? Well, Sir, it will be argued that there is the Labour Department and it is therefore left to me to approach that department. Only last year a lakh of rupees was handed over to the Labour Department for water-supply and for several sanitary improvements. That one lakh would not be sufficient for even one taluk. That being the case how is it possible for the Labour Department to distribute sufficient funds to all the districts out of that one lakh?

"Sir, I wish to point out another thing. It seems that the Government are going to spread this work over a period of three years. They are going to complete this scheme of sinking wells, etc., in three years' time. To that all I can say is that it is a dangerous policy. I would suggest that this money should be utilized within a year and the scheme completed within that time. Because, this is a matter relating to a question of life and death and three years is indeed a very very long period. It may be contended that acquisition proceedings will have to be taken, that estimates will have to be prepared and all that. But I may say that in rural areas all this could be done without much difficulty and loss of time. Only in municipalities there is difficulty in acquiring lands. Therefore, there is no necessity for extending the period for three years. Then, Sir, it is better to appoint a special overseer to prepare schemes and to carry out the works as early as possible.

"Lastly, what I want to suggest is that water-lifters should be got and placed in wells instead of sinking separate wells. With these few words I beg to resume my seat."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"The House will now adjourn and re-assemble at 11 o'clock to-morrow."

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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APPENDIX I.
[Vide answer to question No. 426 asked by Sriman Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 26th August 1925, page 759 supra.]
Statement showing the licence fees of vendors of foreign liquor in the Madras, Bombay and Bengal Presidencies.

Kind of licence.	Madras.	Bombay.	Bengal.
F.L. 1 wholesale	Madras City Rs. 500 annual. Elsewhere Rs. 250 annual.	City Rs. 500 minimum annual ..	A fixed fee system of settlement of F.L. shops has been introduced from 1st April 1922. The main features of this system are— (a) The abolition of the previous classification of 'wholesale', 'combined' and 'retail' foreign liquor licences and substitution in their place of a licence for sale to the public; licences for hotels, restaurants and railway refreshment rooms are treated as 'Licences for sale to the public.' (b) All transaction between licensed dealers of foreign liquor either of Bengal or of any other Province have to be covered by a pass. (c) The licence fee or licence tax for 'sale to the trade' is as annual fixed fee of Rs. 200 payable in advance and for sale to the public is assessed every month at certain fixed rates on the quantity of liquor sold to the public during the month.
F.L. 2 retail off	City Rs. 500 annual. Part of Nilgiris Rs. 1,000 annual. Elsewhere Rs. 250 and 150 annual.	City A class Rs. 2,000 annual .. B " Rs. 1,000 " .. C " Rs. 500 " .. Elsewhere A class Rs. 500 annual. B " Rs. 300 " .. C " Rs. 100 " ..	
F.L. 4 beer retail licence (issued to successful vendors of beer shops).	City Rs. 50 annual. Elsewhere Rs. 50 annual.	City Rs. 500 annual ..	
F.L. 5 tavern	Retail on { City on } on { Elsewhere } auction {	City Rs. 500 annual ..	
F.L. 6 beer shop	City Rs. 50 annual. Elsewhere Rs. 50 annual.	City Rs. 500 annual ..	
F.L. 7 hotel	City 1st class Rs. 5,000 annual .. 2nd " Rs. 250 " .. Nilgiris 1st class Rs. 100 annual .. 2nd " Rs. 50 " .. Elsewhere 1st class Rs. 50 annual. 2nd " Rs. 25 " ..	City A class Rs. 3,000. B " Rs. 2,000. C " Rs. 1,000. Elsewhere A class Rs. 750. B " Rs. 500. C " Rs. 250. D " Rs. 100. City Rs. 50 monthly.	
F.L. 8 bar	City 1st class Rs. 100 monthly .. 2nd " Rs. 50 " .. Elsewhere no licence issued .. City Rs. 250 plus 200 annual .. Elsewhere varies from Rs. 50 to 150 annual.	City Rs. 50 monthly.	
F.L. 9 railway refreshment room.	City Rs. 500 annual ..	City and Elsewhere—fixed according to sales annual.	
F.L. 10 refreshment room (others).	City Rs. 500 annual ..	City—A class Rs. 3,500, B class Rs. 2,500, C class Rs. 2,000, D class, Rs. 250 and E class Rs. 100 annual.	

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Kind of licence.	Madras.	Bombay.	Bengal.
13 F.L. 11 Occasional	Elsewhere Rs. 75 annual	Elsewhere—A class Rs. 2,000, B class Rs. 1,000, C class Rs. 500 annual. City Rs. 5 a day.	} City Elsewhere Rs. 50 annual.
F.L. 13 Rectified spirit	City and Elsewhere maximum Rs. 100 each occasion.	Elsewhere Re. 1 a day.	
F.L. 17 Medicated wines	City and Elsewhere Rs. 10 annual.	City and Elsewhere Rs. 100 annual.	
F.L. 20 Carteen licence	Rs. 10	City and Elsewhere Rs. 25 annual.	
	City Rs. 12 for smaller units annual.	City Rs. 12 smaller units annual.	
	Elsewhere and Rs. 24 regiments annual.	Elsewhere Rs. 24 regiments annual.	
Dining Car	City and Elsewhere fixed by Commissioner usually Rs. 50 annual.	City and Elsewhere fixed according to sales.	
Denatured	City and Elsewhere fixed by Commissioner usually Rs. 50 annual.	City wholesale Rs. 2.	
Licence for coaling ferry steamer.	City and Elsewhere fixed by Commissioner usually Rs. 50 annual.	Elsewhere retail Rs. 1	City and Elsewhere Rs. 50 and 5 annual.
Travelling Bungalow Licence	City and Elsewhere fixed by Commissioner usually Rs. 50 annual.	City and Elsewhere fixed according to sales.	
Licences for sale of Essences, ..	City and Elsewhere fixed by Commissioner usually Rs. 50 annual.	City and Elsewhere Rs. 5 annual.	

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APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 433 asked by Mr. G. Rameswara Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 26th August 1925, page 762 supra.]

Statement.

District.	Amount of unexpended witness batta sent to the treasury during the last three years.	Amount claimed by parties.	Amount refunded.	Gain to Government by the new rules.
		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Ganjam	1922	338 10 7	70 8 0	8 13 0
	1923	276 7 0	45 8 0	5 11 0
	1924	261 8 0	36 0 0	4 9 0
	1922	209 0 0	No information.	10 1 0
Vizagapatam ..	1923	150 11 0	60 3 0	7 14 0
	1924	98 14 0	7 0 0	0 14 0
	1921-22	439 9 0	37 2 0	36 13 0
Godavari	1922-23	283 10 0	Nil.	15 2 0
	1923-24	335 0 0	Nil.	28 4 0
	1921-22	936 12 6	Nil.	Nil.
Kistna	1922-23	698 5 0	10 12 0	1 6 0
	1923-24	916 13 0	10 15 0	1 6 0
	1921-22	226 8 6	2 12 0	0 6 0
Guntur	1922-23	37 3 0	0 8 0	0 1 0
	1923-24	299 14 6	Nil.	Nil.
	1922	65 14 0	29 4 0	5 10 0
Nellore	1923	118 4 0	12 8 0	13 14 0
	1924	46 15 0	Nil.	4 3 0
District Munsif's Court, Kanigiri.	1921-22	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
	1922-23	5 2 0	Nil.	0 11 0
	1923-24	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
	1921-22	44 14 0	Nil.	Nil.
Cuddapah	1922-23	18 10 0	Nil.	Nil.
	1923-24	33 6 0	Nil.	Nil.
	1921-22	35 13 0	7 0 0	4 9 0
Kurnool	1922-23	13 12 0	Nil.	1 12 0
	1923-24	76 10 0	1 8 0	9 10 0
	1922	86 13 0	Not mentioned.	4 12 0
Bellary *	1923	63 12 0	Do.	Nil.
	1924	19 7 0	Do.	Nil.
	1922	208 14 6	58 15 0	69 11 6
Anantapur	1923	78 10 0	7 0 0	5 2 0
	1924	64 0 0	9 13 0	4 6 0
	1922	51 11 0	Nil.	7 0 0
Chittoor	1923	62 9 0	1 6 0	6 9 0
	1924	96 10 0	Nil.	11 10 0
	1922	151 7 11	17 3 0	2 3 0
North Arcot ..	1923	187 10 7	111 12 0	14 0 0
	1924	78 10 0	17 0 0	2 3 0

* Figures for District Court not given. Apparently there are no figures.

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Statement—cont.

District.	Amount of unexpended witness batta sent to the treasury during the last three years.	Amount claimed by parties.	Amount refunded.	Gain to Government by the new rules.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Chingleput .. {	1922 45 14 0	Nil.	Nil.	2 12 0
	1923 83 10 6	Nil.	Nil.	7 1 0
	1924 189 7 2	3 12 0	3 12 0	11 9 0
South Arcot .. {	1922 358 13 0	22 7 0	22 7 0	38 2 0
	1923 425 8 2	24 7 2	24 7 2	49 3 0
	1924 270 12 8	8 9 0	8 9 0	24 6 0
West Tanjore .. {	1921-22 638 14 6	19 8 0	19 8 0	2 7 0
	1922-23 828 8 0	32 14 0	22 14 0	4 2 0
	1923-24 721 2 4	43 10 0	43 10 0	5 8 0
East Tanjore .. {	1921-22 397 4 11	37 12 0	37 12 0	25 4 0
	1922-23 181 11 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	16 12 0
	1923-24 279 12 5	14 5 7	14 5 7	27 15 0
Trichinopoly ° .. {	1921-22 402 15 2	18 8 0	18 8 0	2 5 0
	1922-23 506 0 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	2 10 0
	1923-24 482 10 9	35 12 0	35 12 0	4 8 0
Madura (a) .. {	1921-22 1 2 0 (2)	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
	1922-23 3 6 0	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
	1923-24 66 14 0	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Ramnad .. {	1921-22 918 6 0	197 8 0	No information. Evidently same as in previous column.	Total gain is given as Rs. 48-12-0 but the amount is not distributed according to years.
	1922-23 418 1 0	76 2 0		
	1923-24 938 5 0	115 14 0		
Tinnevely .. {	1921-22 1,986 11 6	No information.	113 8 0	13 12 0
	1922-23 2,077 2 2	Do.	119 0 0	15 1 0
	1923-24 1,345 1 10	Do.	132 3 2	16 10 0
Salem .. {	1921-22 806 3 0	4 12 0	4 12 0	2 1 0
	1922-23 697 2 10	28 0 0	28 0 0	2 1 0
	1923-24 612 10 7	14 6 0	14 6 0	2 1 0
Coimbatore .. {	1922 3,044 7 0	Nothing mentioned.	137 8 11	It is stated that the average annual gain is Rs. 66.
	1923 5,323 0 10		577 7 1	
	1924 5,059 15 5			
South Malabar .. {	1922 243 0 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	An average of Rs. 6 per year.
	1923 310 0 0	30 0 0	30 0 0	
	1924 259 0 0	50 0 0	50 0 0	
North Malabar .. {	1921-22 149 5 0	20 12 0	20 12 0	17 15 0
	1922-23 104 2 0	Nil.	Nil.	14 1 0
	1923-24 144 9 0	Nil.	Nil.	19 6 0
South Kanara .. {	1922 25 10 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	3 6 0
	1923 18 3 9	9 2 0	9 2 0	2 7 0
	1924 26 13 0	7 12 0	7 12 0	3 9 0

* Figures for the District Munsifs' Courts of Ariyalur and Kulittalai not given.

† Average grant per year.

(a) Does not include figures for four inferior courts.

(b) The reason why the amounts remitted to the treasury were so small is that until recently it was the practice in this district to send unexpended witness batta which was not claimed in time to the parties or pleaders concerned by money order at their cost.

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 449 asked by Mr. S. Satyamurti at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 26th August 1925, page 771 supra.]

Statement A.

District.	Damage caused by the floods of 1924 to						
	Irrigation works in charge of Revenue Department.	Irrigation works in charge of Public Works Department.	Roads and bridges in charge of Public Works Department.	Roads and bridges in charge of Local boards and Municipalities.	Buildings in charge of Public Works Department.	Municipal buildings.	Pounds and Charadies.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Tanjore ..	7,475	4,18,216	..	1,16,840	..	..	200
Trichinopoly ..	36,000	12,22,000	15,55,500	3,31,380	15,580	16,350	1,100
South Arcot ..	..	47,500	..	25,350	..	..	..
Madura ..	3,060	60,000	70,000	..	..	..	..
Salem ..	3,000	5,000	..	24,730	..	..	..
Coimbatore ..	5,360	79,150	..	74,000	..	..	..
Malabar ..	..	1,46,000	4,93,800	11,26,057	..	..	..
South Kanara ..	..	..	..	8,64,500	685	..	..
The Nilgiris ..	..	..	..	3,28,000	..	..	..

Statement B.

District.	Relief granted to private individuals or bodies.					
	Loans disbursed at the concessional rate of interest.		Number of house-sites provided by Government.	Value of building material supplied.	Number of houses or huts rebuilt out of Government grants.	Amount of remission granted.
	Up to 31st March 1925.	Up to 1st June 1925.				
	RS.	RS.		RS.		
Tanjore ..	1,59,333	40,767	..	491	1,046	Rs. 3,83,637 up to 31st July 1925.
Trichinopoly ..	83,572	22,475	31	2,186	223	Rs. 74,000 up to 6th February 1925.
South Arcot ..	150	No information.	..	..	..	No information.
Madura ..	1,200	Do.	..	..	..	Do.
Salem ..	4,170	Do.	70	4,465	444	Do.
Coimbatore ..	18,145	Do.	843	15,608	911	Do.
Malabar ..	2,62,510	56,528	..	177	3,000	Rs. 16,287 up to 1st June 1925.
South Kanara ..	9,700	No information.	Rs. 11,349
The Nilgiris ..	2,200	Do.	..	1 tree (value not given).	1	No information.

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Kind of licence.	Madras.	Bombay.	Bengal.
13 F.L. 11 Occasional	Elsewhere Rs. 75 annual	Elsewhere—A class Rs. 2,000, B class Rs. 1,000, C class Rs. 500 annual. City Rs. 5 a day.	} City Elsewhere Rs. 50 annual.
F.L. 13 Rectified spirit	City and Elsewhere maximum Rs. 100 each occasion.	Elsewhere Re. 1 a day.	
F.L. 17 Medicated wines	City and Elsewhere Rs. 10 annual.	City and Elsewhere Rs. 100 annual.	
F.L. 20 Carteen licence	Rs. 10	City and Elsewhere Rs. 25 annual.	
	City Rs. 12 for smaller units annual.	City Rs. 12 smaller units annual.	
	Elsewhere and Rs. 24 regiments annual.	Elsewhere Rs. 24 regiments annual.	
Dining Car	City and Elsewhere fixed by Commissioner usually Rs. 50 annual.	City and Elsewhere fixed according to sales.	
Denatured	City and Elsewhere fixed by Commissioner usually Rs. 50 annual.	City wholesale Rs. 2.	
Licence for coaling ferry steamer.	City and Elsewhere fixed by Commissioner usually Rs. 50 annual.	Elsewhere retail Rs. 1	City and Elsewhere Rs. 50 and 5 annual.
Travelling Bungalow Licence	City and Elsewhere fixed by Commissioner usually Rs. 50 annual.	City and Elsewhere fixed according to sales.	
Licences for sale of Essences, ..	City and Elsewhere fixed by Commissioner usually Rs. 50 annual.	City and Elsewhere Rs. 5 annual.	

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APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 459 asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 26th August 1925, page 778 supra.]

The Andaman Islands.

I

There is so much ignorance and misconception with regard to the health, climate and agricultural possibilities of the Andamans that a few facts and figures may perhaps be welcomed by the general public.

Health.—At a recent public meeting, held at Madras on July 12th, a resolution was passed in which it was stated that the Andaman Islands “have been pronounced to be uninhabitable for human being.” The resolution added that the sending of Mappillas there would “wreck the moral, material and social well-being of the emigrants.”

It is true that the Jail Committee, which visited these islands in January 1920, put on record that the settlement was unhealthy. But they were relying mainly on figures and statistics. And the statistics certainly bore out their contention in certain respects.

It must be remembered, however, that war conditions were still hardly at an end; the islands had for six years been consistently short of their proper medical establishment; and the pandemic of influenza in 1918 and 1919 had taken its full toll here as elsewhere.

One of the great reasons for the ill-health of the settlement had been malaria. This disease had, for many years, caused an average of one admission to hospital per annum for every convict, and of 60 per cent of the total admissions from all causes.

Efforts to reduce malaria in the earlier years of this century had not met with much success; large airy barracks were built on the tops of the bluffs close to the sea, so that the inmates should have the benefit of the presumably healthy sea breezes, but the malaria continued.

Then, in 1912, at the request of Government, Colonel Christophers, I.M.S., went to Port Blair to investigate the malaria problem, and proved that the most important carrier of malaria was a mosquito which bred in the salt swamps bordering the sea and close to the barracks.

Acting on his advice, certain of the worst stations were removed bodily to healthy sites inland, and measures were taken—as far as funds permitted—to drain the swamps. The remarkable effect of the latter measure may be seen in the following table, which shows the result, on the women convicts, of draining a large swamp close to the headland on which their parklike quarters were situated:—

Year.	Admissions for malaria.	Ratio per cent of admissions to population.
1913	581	206·76
1917	332	120·73
1918	130	48·15

NOTE.—The reclamation of the said swamp was begun in 1913 and completed in 1917. The headland has now become so healthy that the buildings on it have been converted into the High school for Port Blair.

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The Jail Committee's report also states "The climatic conditions will always be unfavourable to the health of the convicts, *drawn as they are from various parts of India.*" The latter part of the sentence has been italicised because the climatic conditions are *not* unfavourable to people, such as the Mappillas, who have been accustomed all their lives to an almost identical climate.

In the course of their enquiry, the Jail Committee stressed the fact that, whereas the death-rate in Indian jails during the previous ten years had been 21·25 per mille, that of Port Blair had been 25·23. The then S.M.O. in his reply, said that, if the swamps could be reclaimed, the hospitals properly equipped, and an efficient and sufficient medical staff appointed, he saw no reason why the death-rate should not be reduced to 25·00 per mille.

That was in January 1920. What actually happened? In spite of the fact that swamp reclamation progressed very slowly and that the extra hospital equipment did not begin to arrive till the end of 1921, a period of great improvement set in.

The daily sick-rate, which was 77·76 per mille in 1919, fell to 66·26 in 1920 and to 49·60 in 1921.

The admissions to hospital showed a reduction of 34 per cent on the average of the previous 30 years.

The total number of days spent in hospitals was so reduced in 1921 that—compared with 1919—over Rs. 50,000 were saved in labour alone.

Finally, the death-rate from disease, which was 44·36 in 1919, fell to 38·38 in 1920 and to 15·92 in 1921.

Thus, not only was the S.M.O.'s optimistic forecast more than fulfilled, but the 1921 vital statistics of the Andamans were better than those of the jails of *any* province in India.

A great deal of this improvement was due to the lessened incidence of malaria. Compared with the average for the previous 30 years, admissions for malaria in 1921 were 3·6 per cent less, and deaths 63·7 less.

The reduction of malaria in recent years has been really remarkable, as the following figures show:—

Year.	Admissions for malaria.
1919	14,828
1920	10,060
1921	5,618 (only 15 deaths)
1922 (about)	2,600

and this improvement has been maintained.

Coincident with the reduction in malaria was an equally welcome reduction in other diseases.

The figures for the last year are not at present available, but it is known that, among a convict population of about 8,500, the daily sick-rate never reached 400, even in the unhealthiest period of the year, and that the average sick-rate over a consecutive period of quite five months did not exceed 250.

It appears, therefore, from the above figures that the Jail Committee's adverse report—however justifiable on the records of the past—is hardly applicable to present conditions; while the statement that the islands are "uninhabitable for human beings" is untrue.

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II

The first note described how great a scourge to the settlement malaria had been, and how great a reduction had been effected in recent years. In addition to malaria, there are two other diseases of much importance; they are dysentery and consumption. But these diseases are not peculiar to Port Blair; they are common to All-India. And, as a set-off to them, it is well to note the immunity which the Andaman Islands possess from many other diseases which are a scourge in India itself. They are absolutely free from plague, cholera, smallpox, hydrophobia, kala-azar, typhus and relapsing fever, while enteric fever and hookworm diseases (apart from imported cases) are almost non-existent.

When we think of the toll taken annually by these diseases in the Madras Presidency, we must agree that there is much to be said for the Andamans. The Medical department of the Andamans is fully alive to the dangers of the three main diseases mentioned and are fighting them energetically. Recently, a League of Health (on the lines of that suggested by Doctor Lankester in his book, "Tuberculosis in India") has been started at Port Blair, and its members include not only officials, free residents and boy-scouts, but also self-supporter convicts. Its aim is to improve the health of the population generally by educating all in the prevention of disease, in sanitation, first-aid, maternity and child-welfare. Similarly, recent research having shown that the strong, damp-laden winds of the south-west monsoon favour the spread of consumption measures are now being taken to locate all new villages on the north-east slopes of the hills where they will be protected from such wind.

It was said (with reference to the Anglo-Indian Colonists) that they would be miles away from the nearest medical assistance. Such a statement is both misleading and inaccurate. In addition to the two main hospitals on Ross and Haddo (both of which have male and female wards for free Indian patients) there are smaller hospitals and dispensaries located at all important stations throughout the settlement. Two new dispensaries have been opened this year to attend to the needs of the new Mappilla villages.

Climate.

The Andaman Islands are *not* (as was once told to the writer) "bare rocks nowhere more than 10 feet above the level of the sea"; they are one of the most beautiful spots in our Indian Empire, and might well be described as the "Pearls of the Orient". Their climate is almost exactly like that of Malabar. The annual rainfall is 115 inches, compared with Malabar's 117 and the mean temperature of each is from 70 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Both have a steady sea-breeze throughout the south-west monsoon, with heavy rain and a lighter and drier breeze from the north west in December and January.

Each has its own malarial problem, but in this respect they differ, the malaria of Malabar being inland at the foot-hills of the Wynaad, whereas that of the Andamans is on the sea. From the point of view of Mappilla emigration, therefore, the climate is ideal.

A recent speaker against such emigration instanced, in support of his argument, the fact that the first experiment in colonizing Anglo-Indians at Port Blair proved a failure. This is no argument against *Mappillas* going to the Andamans. In the first place, not one of that batch of Anglo-Indians had any knowledge of agriculture, whereas *Mappillas* will be in their own

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element in this respect. Then, no proper medical examination of the Anglo-Indians had been made before despatch, with the result that three of the twelve had to be sent back almost at once on medical grounds. Lastly, they had to do work done elsewhere by coolies, and the average Anglo-Indian is not suited for this in a tropical climate.

But, for the usual work of an Anglo-Indian or European in India, the climate of Port Blair is not too trying, and it is one of the few places in our Indian Empire where European women and children can remain all the year round without definite ill-effects on their health. In an experience of $6\frac{1}{2}$ years there, the writer was only off-duty for two weeks.

Agriculture, etc.—In Malabar, the staple means of livelihood are agriculture, fishing, wood-cutting, oil-pressing, rice-growing, making paper, leaf hats and umbrellas, rearing cattle, and growing areca-nut and coconut palms, plantains, pepper, ginger, tea and coffee, jack and mango fruits, etc. All these industries are suitable in the Andamans, and have been started already in the cleared areas, while cane-sugar also grows luxuriantly.

At present, the main sources of revenue are the forests and coconuts. A million tons of excellent forest woods await cutting yearly, but only the fringe of the forests can yet be touched for want of labour. Within these virgin forests lie rich valleys, eminently suited for growing the varied produce to which the Mappillas are accustomed. The country consists, in fact, mainly of hills and valleys enclosed by an extensive seaboard where splendid fishing may be obtained.

Enough has, we hope, been said to show that neither the Mappillas nor their altruistic friends need anticipate starvation, penury or an early death for anyone who has the courage and initiative to start a new life in the Andamans.

COIMBATORE, }
20th July 1925. }

F. A. BARKER, Major, I.M.S.

[26th August 1925]

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to question No. 460 asked by Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 26th August 1925, page 779 supra.]

Statement showing the number of labourers recruited to Assam month by month from the beginning of 1925 from the districts in the Madras Presidency.

Name of the district and month.	Number of persons recruited.			Name of the district and month.	Number of persons recruited.		
	Men.	Women.	Children.		Men.	Women.	Children.
Cuddapah—				East Godavari—			
January 1925 ..	2	1	1	January 1925 ..	5	1	1
February ..	3	4	1	February ..	19	2	..
March ..	4	4	2	March ..	26	3	3
April ..	2	..	..	April ..	10	3	6
May ..	..	..	..	May ..	3	..	..
June ..	..	2	..	June ..	5	..	..
July (up to 20th July 1925).	..	..	..	Total ..	68	9	10
Total ..	11	11	..				
North Arcot—				Kistna—			
January 1925 ..	..	..	..	January 1925 ..	13	1	1
February ..	..	..	..	February ..	10	6	3
March ..	..	..	..	March ..	1	..	..
April ..	..	..	..	April ..	1	1	..
May ..	1	..	1	May ..	13	..	..
June ..	3	..	3	June ..	9	..	..
July (up to 20th July 1925).	..	..	..	Total ..	47	8	4
Total ..	4	5	4				
Anantapur—				Bellary—			
January 1925 ..	2	2	2	January 1925 ..	1	..	..
February ..	2	1	1	February ..	5	3	1
March ..	15	15	20	March ..	5	2	..
April ..	8	6	6	April ..	1	..	..
May ..	20	16	17	May ..	13	6	4
June ..	2	1	1	June ..	3	4	4
Total ..	49	41	47	July ..	..	..	..
				Total ..	28	15	9
Guntur—				Vizagapatam—			
January 1925 ..	20	2	2	January 1925 ..	265	139	73
February ..	19	1	..	February ..	282	100	63
March ..	30	6	6	March ..	301	124	118
April ..	14	2	3	April ..	249	117	77
May ..	4	2	2	May ..	236	110	73
June ..	14	8	3	June ..	240	88	66
Total ..	101	21	16	July ..	100	35	15
				Total ..	1,673	713	485
Ganjam—				Kurnool—			
January 1925 ..	119	31	24	January 1925 ..	3	..	..
February ..	231	88	69	February ..	..	..	..
March ..	331	125	118	March ..	3	..	..
April ..	224	129	114	April ..	1
May ..	154	65	54	May ..	7
June ..	145	48	33	June
Total ..	1,204	486	412	July
				Total ..	14

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APPENDIX VII.

[Vide answer to question No. 464 asked by Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 26th August 1925, page 783 supra.]

Resolution No. 194.—Council resolves that a water and drainage tax of 8 per cent on the annual rental value of properties be levied with effect from 1st October 1925.

Resolution No. 195.—The levy of water and drainage tax shall not apply to lands exclusively used for agricultural purposes and not deriving any benefit from the water or drainage works on account of which the tax is imposed.

Resolution No. 196.—The buildings and lands, the annual value of each of which does not exceed Rs. 12 and the proprietor of which does not own any other building or land assessed to property tax, and is not liable to companies', profession or income tax, be exempt from property tax, including the new water and drainage tax.

Resolution No. 197.—(1) That the cost of head works should be borne entirely by Government and that, if water is taken from this scheme either directly or indirectly for irrigation purposes, the income derived therefrom should be credited to the municipality, and when these are done, the Council will reduce the water and drainage tax by at least 2 per cent.

(2) That in case the expenditure should exceed the present estimated amount, the entire amount over and above the estimated cost be borne entirely by Government.

(3) That no water from this scheme be allowed to be used within the Agricultural College and Forest College premises and holdings except on terms to be settled with this Council.

Resolution No. 198.—Council strongly adheres to its original resolution and again emphasizes the urgent necessity of including the Central Jail and the Police Recruits School buildings for taxation.

APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide Order of the Day No. III at page 792 supra.]

To

THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF
THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

WE, the undersigned members of the Select Committee appointed to report on certain draft amendments to Standing Orders Nos. 2 (2) and 6 (3) moved by Mr. G. Rameswara Rao, 40 (2) moved by Mr. J. A. Saldanha and 54 moved by Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Council held on the 3rd February 1925, have the honour to submit the following report.

2. As the hon. the President has already made arrangements to keep Members informed of lapsed questions after each prorogation of the Council, Amendment to Standing Order No. 2 (2) we consider that no alteration of Standing Order No. 2 (2) is necessary.

[26th August 1925]

3. The provisions of the present Standing Order No. 6 (3) seem to be clear and to cover the point raised by Mr. Rameswara Rao. The addition proposed by him is, in our opinion, unnecessary.

4. With regard to Mr. Saldanha's amendment to Standing Order No. 40 (2), it seems to us desirable that there should be some limit to the number of Members appointed to a Select Committee. Accordingly, we recommend the adoption of the amendment in the following form :—

“Add the following to clause (2) of Standing Order No. 40 :—

‘The number of such other members so nominated shall not, without leave of the House, exceed fifteen.’”

Standing Order No. 40, as thus amended, would run as follows :—

“40. (1) The Member of the Government in charge of the department to which the Bill relates and the Member who introduced the Bill shall be members of every Select Committee.

(2) The other members of the Committee shall be named by the Council when the motion that the Bill be referred is made, or at any subsequent sitting. The number of such other members so nominated shall not, without leave of the House, exceed fifteen.

(3) The President shall nominate one of the members of the Committee to be its Chairman. In the case of an equality of votes in the Committee, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

(4) A Select Committee may hear expert evidence and the representatives of any special interests affected by the measure before them.”

Proposed amendment to Standing Order No. 54.

5. On the proposed amendment of Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar to Standing Order No. 54, we propose to submit our report next session.

L. D. SWAMIKANNU.
J. A. SALDANHA.
S. SATYAMURTI.
C. NATESAN.
T. R. V. SASTRI.
W. VIJAYARAGHAVA MUDALIYAR.
P. KESAVA PILLAI.
G. RAMESWARA RAO.
P. KHALIFULLAH.
A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR.

1st April 1925.

[Annexure.]

[26th August 1925]

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 433 asked by Mr. G. Rameswara Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 26th August 1925, page 762 supra.]

Statement.

District.	Amount of unexpended witness batta sent to the treasury during the last three years.	Amount claimed by parties.	Amount refunded.	Gain to Government by the new rules.
		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Ganjam	1922	338 10 7	70 8 0	8 13 0
	1923	276 7 0	45 8 0	5 11 0
	1924	261 8 0	36 0 0	4 9 0
	1922	209 0 0	No information.	10 1 0
Vizagapatam ..	1923	150 11 0	60 3 0	7 14 0
	1924	98 14 0	7 0 0	0 14 0
	1921-22	439 9 0	37 2 0	36 13 0
Godavari	1922-23	283 10 0	Nil.	15 2 0
	1923-24	335 0 0	Nil.	28 4 0
	1921-22	936 12 6	Nil.	Nil.
Kistna	1922-23	698 5 0	10 12 0	1 6 0
	1923-24	916 13 0	10 15 0	1 6 0
	1921-22	226 8 6	2 12 0	0 6 0
Guntur	1922-23	37 3 0	0 8 0	0 1 0
	1923-24	299 14 6	Nil.	Nil.
	1922	65 14 0	29 4 0	5 10 0
Nellore	1923	118 4 0	12 8 0	13 14 0
	1924	46 15 0	Nil.	4 3 0
District Munsif's Court, Kanigiri.	1921-22	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
	1922-23	5 2 0	Nil.	0 11 0
	1923-24	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
	1921-22	44 14 0	Nil.	Nil.
Cuddapah	1922-23	18 10 0	Nil.	Nil.
	1923-24	33 6 0	Nil.	Nil.
	1921-22	35 13 0	7 0 0	4 9 0
Kurnool	1922-23	13 12 0	Nil.	1 12 0
	1923-24	76 10 0	1 8 0	9 10 0
	1922	86 13 0	Not mentioned.	4 12 0
Bellary *	1923	63 12 0	Do.	Nil.
	1924	19 7 0	Do.	Nil.
	1922	208 14 6	58 15 0	69 11 6
Anantapur	1923	78 10 0	7 0 0	5 2 0
	1924	64 0 0	9 13 0	4 6 0
	1922	51 11 0	Nil.	7 0 0
Chittoor	1923	62 9 0	1 6 0	6 9 0
	1924	96 10 0	Nil.	11 10 0
	1922	151 7 11	17 3 0	2 3 0
North Arcot ..	1923	187 10 7	111 12 0	14 0 0
	1924	78 10 0	17 0 0	2 3 0

* Figures for District Court not given. Apparently there are no figures.



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